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17 October 1979

NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

No. 2033

CONTENTS

PAGE

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

UAE Official Cited on Upcoming Forum on Arab Image in Western Media ('Adil Bashtawi; AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, 25 Sep 79).....	1
Motives of U.S. Presence in Gulf Criticized (AL-HURRIYAH, 17 Sep 79).....	3

ALGERIA

Belgian Paper on Economic Delegation's Visit, Trade Ties (Michel Dubuisson; LE SOIR, 18 Sep 79).....	5
---	---

BAHRAIN

Briefs Joint Petrochemical Company	7
---------------------------------------	---

IRAN

Army Will Not Permit Military Action by Political Groups (KEYHAN, 6 Sep 79).....	8
Mojahedin Demand Purge of Khomeyni's Enemies (BAMDAD, 25 Aug 79).....	9
Leader Says Guards Will Carry Out Revolution (BAMDAD, 19 Aug 79).....	11
Government Blames Foreigners for Kordestan Uprising (Sadeq Tabataba'i; KEYHAN, 3 Sep 79).....	13
Shari'-at-Madari Disapproves 'Separation' of Kordestan (ETTELA'AT, 29 Aug 79).....	17

CONTENTS (Continued)

Page

Four Israeli Spies Arrested in Kordestan (ETTELA'AT, 29 Aug 79).....	19
Former Shah's '\$6 Billion Contribution' to Various Groups in Kordestan (ETTELA'AT, 28 Aug 79).....	20
National Front To Send Goodwill Delegation to Kordestan (ETTELA'AT, 29 Aug 79).....	21
Ezzedin Hoseyni: 'Do Not Let Iran Become a Second Lebanon' (ETTELA'AT, 29 Aug 79).....	22
Two Socialist Workers Party Members Jailed (BAMDAD, 27 Aug 79).....	23
All General Tufanian's Contracts Favored Foreigners (KEYHAN, 6 Sep 79).....	24
Nationalization of Iran-Russian Bank To Be Discussed With Soviet Delegation (ETTELA'AT, 29 Aug 79).....	26
Prominent Feda'i Khalq Member Under Prosecution (ETTELA'AT, 29 Aug 79).....	27
Guards Chief Reports on Steel Mill Problems (Tehran Domestic Service, 5 Oct 79).....	29
Tehran Official Describes 'Brief Rebellion' at Qasr Prison (Tehran Domestic Service, 5 Oct 79).....	30
Revolutionary Guards Patrol Stores (KEYHAN, 28 Aug 79).....	31
Guerrilla Network Discovered in Khuzestan (ETTELA'AT, 28 Aug 79).....	32
Ayatollah Nuri Reports on 'Anti-Revolutionary Plots' (ETTELA'AT, 28 Aug 79).....	33
Revolutionary Courts To Try Profiteers (KEYHAN, 26 Aug 79).....	35
Water and Electricity Payments Embezzled (KEYHAN, 27 Aug 79).....	36
Government To Confiscate Idle Lands (BAMDAD, 19 Aug 79).....	38

CONTENTS (Continued)

Page

Social Reforms Announced for Esfahan (BAMDAD, 25 Aug 79).....	41
--	----

Briefs	
'Traitors' Blamed for Kordestan Troubles	43

ISRAEL

Jewish Agency Official Comments on Jordan Valley Settlement (Jerusalem Domestic Service, 3 Oct 79).....	44
--	----

Briefs	
Exports Rise in Nine Months	46
Mayors Oppose Pay Raise	46
IDF Regular Personnel Reduction	46

KUWAIT

Iranian Ambitions in Gulf Area Assailed (Editorial; AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM, 25 Sep 79).....	47
---	----

'AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM' Criticizes Iran's Gulf Policy (GULF NEWS AGENCY, 25 Sep 79).....	49
---	----

Editorial Urges Rejection of Oman's Gulf Security Plan (Editorial; AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM, 23 Sep 79).....	50
--	----

'AL-WATAN' Urges Measures To Curb Arab Sectarianism (Editorial; AL-WATAN, 12 Sep 79).....	52
--	----

'AL-QABAS' Says Young Talks With PLO at Carter Request (QNA, 29 Sep 79).....	53
---	----

Briefs	
Citizenships Withdrawn	54
Castro Supported, Carter Criticized	54

LEBANON

Officers of Joint Command Praise Unified, Organized Action (AL-HURRIYAH, 10 Sep 79).....	55
---	----

'Arafat, Al-Huss Discuss Deploying Army in South Lebanon (Michel an-Nimri; AL-WATAN, 26 Sep 79).....	61
---	----

Reactions to Military Promotions (AL-SAFIR, 5, 7 Sep 79).....	63
--	----

CONTENTS (Continued)

Page

MOROCCO

Moroccan Prime Minister Interviewed on Western Sahara (Maati Bouabid Interview; LE SOLEIL, 30 Sep 79).....	71
---	----

TUNISIA

Strength of Bourguibism Thwarts Alarmists, Rumor-Mongers (Moncef Chihi; L'ACTION, 27 Sep 79).....	76
--	----

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

UAE OFFICIAL CITED ON UPCOMING FORUM ON ARAB IMAGE IN WESTERN MEDIA

London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 25 Sep 79 p 3 LD

[Report by 'Adil Bashtawi: "The Image of the Arab in the West Is the Topic of a Meeting To Be Held in London on Saturday"]

[Excerpts] London--An international meeting on the image of the Arab in the Western news media will begin at the Carlton Tower Hotel in London Saturday. It will be attended by a large group of men working in the information field in the Arab world and the Western states.

UAE Information and Culture Ministry Under Secretary 'Abdallah Nuways has been studying this subject for a long time. He now presents a brief account of how the idea originated, its importance and the results the meeting is expected to achieve:

[Question] How did the idea of the meeting to be held Saturday under the title "The International Press Meeting for 1979" come about?

[Answer] It is no exaggeration to say that the injustice to which the Arab nation is subjected by the authors of Western news and thinking has not been experienced by any other nation in modern times. Anyone following what is published in the press and broadcast on the radio in the Western states will realize the extent of the ferocity of the defamation campaign organized against the Arabs with a view to undermining the reputation of the Arab, distorting his image and then destroying his past and present and his legitimate rights.

The organizers of this campaign have presented Western public opinion with every offensive epithet, describing the Arab as ignorant, greedy, spendthrift and stupid and as growing rich at the expense of workers sweating in British mines or in West German factories.

In the past 20 years, various ideas have been put forward to deal with the problem of distortion of the Arab image in Western societies. Some of these ideas were carried out but their effect was limited; some never saw the light of day but remained in drawers and some did more harm than

good. The idea of organizing an international press meeting on the image of the Arab in Western news media was put forward at the conference which the Arab information ministers and under secretaries held under the aegis of the Arab League in 1977. However, the developments that have been taking place in the Arab arena since about the end of 1977 almost aborted the idea. So it was necessary to take a firm decision. It was decided to carry out the plan on the basis of our belief that what we are doing is in the interest of the Arab nation.

[Question] What is the importance of this meeting?

[Answer] The meeting is the first of its kind in the world. It is especially important because it is an attempt to encourage cultural interaction between the Arabs and the West. Its basic aim is to deal with the roots of the problem of the Arab's distorted image in the Western and other states.

[Question] Can you give us an idea of some of the participants?

[Answer] The meeting participants are people who deal with news and formulate public opinion in both the local and the international spheres and also information experts. However, I must reiterate that the meeting is not a political demonstration; it is a quiet debate. We will bring the Arab and Western newsmen face to face and tell them: "Debate the problem and offer a solution" because the situation has deteriorated more than it should have done.

CSO: 4802

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

MOTIVES OF U.S. PRESENCE IN GULF CRITICIZED

Beirut AL-HURRIYAH in Arabic 17 Sep 79 p 31

[Text] On 22 August 1979, the newspaper SAWT AL-THAWRAH, official organ of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman, published an editorial under the title "Why the U.S. Bases in the 'Sultanate' of Oman?" In view of the importance of that editorial, we quote it as follows:

"In the flood of these events which are laden with U.S. menaces, despite the protestations of disapproval and denunciation of the U.S. aggression from some of the states in the Peninsula and the Gulf, the traitorous sultan in Oman has shown his readiness to give the U.S. the right to use Omani territory for the purpose of building air bases on it and to open Oman's harbors to admit the U.S. fleet in compensation for the bases which the U.S. lost in Iran, in addition to the strategic island of Musayrah, which the sultan granted to the U.S. and which is now considered the most important forward striking base in the Arabian Sea.

"Through these offers and repeated invitations for the U.S. presence in the 'sultanate' of Oman, the language of U.S. Secretary of Defense Brown changed so that he said in another statement, 'The United States will never intervene militarily in the area of the Gulf except in response to an invitation from the peoples of the area.' There are many traitorous rulers who have offered the invitation to the U.S. presence to protect them so that they might stay in power as long as possible, but the will of the people is stronger than the U.S. bayonets and the authority of their agents. There are many examples of the failure of U.S. intervention, especially in Indochina and Latin America, which was done under the pretext of an invitation, that of the traitorous rulers who were rejected by their own peoples. Hence, it is apparent that the administration of the Pentagon has gained the necessary justification to cover its military presence in the area at the invitation of the traitorous regime in Muscat, and this is what the U.S. administration wants as a first step toward the attainment of the strategic goals which have been drawn up in the U.S. imperialistic plan to gain control over the peoples of the area and subject them to force and to exploit their resources and protect the ruling family which is subservient to it. We wish to call attention briefly here to

the menace of the direct U.S. presence in the 'sultanate' of Oman and its control over the strait of Hormuz in the existing circumstance, and we define it in the following statements:

"1. The purpose of the rapid U.S. movement in the area is to encircle the glorious triumph of the Iranian people and limit its influence and spread, as well as to demonstrate to the regimes which are opposed to their peoples and subservient to the U.S. that it will never forsake them and that it is bent on preserving their existence.

"2. The U.S. is well aware that it is not in its interest to intervene militarily against the states of the Gulf in a direct form, and the statements of the U.S. officials were a tactical cover to establish in the 'sultanate of Oman some of the military bases that had already been agreed on so that the U.S. fleet might control the strait of Hormuz from the Omani side, with the object of changing the position of the petroleum-producing countries which are still opposed to the U.S. solution, for the control of the strait constitutes a political pressure on them.

"3. The U.S. presence in the 'sultanate' of Oman and the control over the strait of Hormuz puts the states of the area -- on the Peninsula and the Gulf -- at the mercy of U.S. imperialism, and the petroleum decision in politics and economics will by no means be Arab in the near future, but will be as the U.S. sees fit for itself and its allies, including Israel.

"4. Pressure on the petroleum-producing states from the territory of the sultanate will be one of the important counters in the U.S. political game, by means of which it will endeavor to bring pressure to bear on the Palestine revolution to accept the U.S. solution in the Middle East within the Camp David agreements. Hence begins the policy of seizure and bargaining to make unpalatable the U.S. plan for the Camp David agreements, which are acceptable, albeit tacitly, to some of the regimes which reject them out of nationalistic considerations, etc.

"5. The U.S. presence in the 'sultanate' of Oman is also intended, in a political form, to strike at the revolution in Oman under the leadership of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman and at the forces of nationalism and progressivism in the Peninsula and the Gulf and to suppress any liberationist, nationalist individual in this area."

CSO: 4802

BELGIAN PAPER ON ECONOMIC DELEGATION'S VISIT, TRADE TIES

Brussels LE SOIR in French 18 Sep 79 p 3 LD

[Report by Michel Dubuisson: "Prince Albert and Mr Outers in Algiers"]

[Text] Algiers, 16 Sep—An important Belgian economic delegation led by Prince Albert, honorary president of the OBCE [expansion unknown; possibly Belgian Office for Economic Cooperation], and Foreign Trade Minister Lucien Outers has arrived in Algiers on a 4-day visit. The objective of the mission is clearly to further strengthen the already excellent relations between the two countries, promote business deals which are now being negotiated, obtain information regarding the priorities of the new Algerian Five-Year Plan which is now being prepared—it will probably not be initiated before next spring—and lend special glamor to the Algiers Trade Fair's Belgian Day.

Prince Albert and Minister Outers will talk with President Chadli Bendjedid and President of the People's Assembly Rabah Bitat. Furthermore, the Belgian delegation will meet Prime Minister Abdelghani and several "technical" ministers, including the trade, planning, transport, industry and energy ministers.

At every Belgian-Algerian meeting the importance and quality of the relations existing between the two countries are bound to be recalled--there is no political disagreement between them and, above all, each side is able and willing to understand the other's needs and requirements.

No doubt the Algerians would like Belgium considerably to increase its technical cooperation and the Belgians would like Algeria to give them more contracts. However, the figures speak for themselves.

Our exports to Algeria which has become our most important customer in Africa increased from 1.7 billion Belgian francs in 1970 to 12.7 billion Belgian francs in 1978, whereas Algerian exports to the Belgian-Luxembourg Economic Union have fallen to 2.2 billion Belgian francs. However, this is only temporary because once the SONATRACH-DISTRIGAZ

contract providing for natural gas supplies is implemented, the balance will be reversed in Algeria's favor.

This is yet another reason why Belgian firms should make their presence known and demonstrate their effectiveness in an area where they have already proved their worth. In addition to the competition which has now appeared on the Algerian market--where the Japanese have certainly achieved a remarkable breakthrough--some firms will have to face problems stemming from an increasingly strong trend toward "products in hand" if not "markets in hand" contracts, that is, toward agreements going much further than the traditional "key in hand" contracts. Furthermore, new sectors--food products, textiles and chemical products, for instance--logically should open for our exporters.

As we know, Algeria is trying to develop its industry. As a result, the country will remain for some time a major importer of equipment while urgent new demands stemming from the increase in population (especially housing which has hitherto not been treated as a matter of urgency) have arisen and while in the rather more distant future Algeria's borders should open more widely to consumer goods.

CSO: 4400

BAHRAIN

BRIEFS

JOINT PETROCHEMICAL COMPANY--Manama, 22 Sep--Bahraini Development and Industry Minister Yusuf al-Shirawi and Kuwaiti Oil Minister 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah signed an agreement in Manama today establishing the Bahraini-Kuwaiti Company for Petrochemical Industries. 'Abd-al-Hadi al-Nuri, chairman of the Kuwaiti Chemical [word unclear], said that the joint company will produce products essential to the petrochemical industries by exploiting the natural gas which is available in abundant quantities in Bahrain. Hasan Fakhru, director general of the Bahraini National Oil Company, said that investments for the Bahraini-Kuwaiti company total 140 million Bahraini dinars. [Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 Sep 79 JN]

CSO: 4802

ARMY WILL NOT PERMIT MILITARY ACTION BY POLITICAL GROUPS

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 6 Sep 79 p 2

/Text/ "The Army will not permit military action by political groups," was the statement made by the Commander of the Land Forces in a conversation.

If a disturbance or a revolt were to occur in any region and a breach of peace would ensue in that region, then the Army will intervene and restore order. In stating this in a conversation, Brigadier-general Falahi, Commander of the Land Forces, said that by virtue of the orders issued by the Government the Land Forces are charged with the restoration of order and security in the region of Kordestan and therefore the Army goes into action and will complete its work begun there since several days.

He added: usually an army besieges insecure cities from without and brings under control entrances and exits, but mopping operations and internal security of a city is the task of police, gendarmerie and guards. The Army has an orderly spirit and discipline and will not permit any military action, orderly or guerrilla-like, by any political group and, especially by the dissolved /Kurdish/ Democratic Party. This Party has demonstrated its existence only by statements and slogans, for if it had power it would prove itself by counteraction in the recent events.

With respect to the eventuality of a guerrilla warfare in the region of Kordestan Brigadier-general Falshi said: in the event of guerrilla operations, whether in winter or any other season, the Army is in full readiness and enjoys a complete superiority on land and in air. Therefore no counterrevolutionary activity can confront the intelligence system, tactics, and special equipment of the Army. Faith and Islamic inspiration and spirit imbue the Army, whereas no such things are found on the opposite side. As regards the time of entry of the Army into Sardasht, he said: the taking of Sardasht is not the problem of time and the Armed Forces can enter Sardasht whenever they choose. However, apart from counter-revolutionaries there are also people of Sardasht whom we do not want to be hurt. Therefore we endeavor to separate counterrevolutionaries from the ordinary people in the same way as it was done earlier in Mahabad where when taking over that city we tried and succeeded avoiding hurting the non-implicated population. The Army is answerable to people, Islam and God, and must and will act accordingly.

MOJAHEDIN DEMAND PURGE OF KHOMEYNI'S ENEMIES

Tehran BAMDAD in Persian 25 Aug 79 p 12

[Text] In a message sent on the occasion of Eyd-e Petr (the festival at the end of the fasting month of Ramadan) the Mojahedin Organization of the Islamic Revolution has referred to the revolutionary rise of Iran's Moslem people in last year's Eyd-e Petr, congratulated this great Islamic feast and asked that more importance be attached to the Islamic holidays. The organization has announced: There is no doubt that with the existence of great holidays such as Eyd-e Petr, Eyd-e Qorban (Feast of Sacrifices observed on the tenth of Zihajeh) and Ma'bath (the day Mohammad received his prophetic mission), Now Ruz will not be very interesting. Most of these feasts, besides having a deep cultural and belief aspect, extend beyond the borders of Iran. They cover the Islamic world with splendor.

Change in the Revolutionary Procedure

Referring to the change in the policy of Iran's Islamic revolution, following revolutionary orders issued by Imam Khomeyni, especially regarding suppressing the antirevolutionaries and hoping that this year's Eyd (feast) would, like last year's, be the beginning of determination (of directions) of the Islamic revolution and its future bright victories, the organization has mentioned some points for the fulfillment of Imam's revolutionary order and confirmed the necessity of acting "revolutionary" vis-a-vis anti-revolutionaries throughout the country.

Purging the Organizations

In continuation of these warning remarks, the Mojahedin Organization of the Islamic revolution has made the following comments:

"All organizations, persons and centers who are against the Islamic revolution and the Imam's policy should be purged, arrested and punished, the past and present negligent elements, antirevolutionaries in the executive organizations of the government and those antirevolutionaries who lie in wait using their pen or those who rise publicly and armed against the Islamic Republic.

"Obviously a military solution is a compulsory reaction for removing the dams and walls that antirevolutionaries have set up by all sorts of sit-in demonstrations, demonstrations without any reasons, strikes, spreading rumors through mercenary newspapers, explosions, setting fire to harvests, assassinations and even civil war and stopping fundamental reforms and economic and cultural revolution. Otherwise, we are well aware that the Moslem and free people of Kurd, Baluch, Arab and Turkomen have been under pressure because of numerous inadequacies (that need) fundamental and major actions to remove this shameful remainder of monarchy."

In the end, the message indicates: "You, the Moslem people on whom the Imam has always relied to the point that he has asked you to watch the government's works, should be aware and control carefully and fully from all aspects the demands and orders of Imam issued to the government, army and other organizations and not overlook the slightest negligence and deviation. It is only by following the orders of the Islamic revolutionary leader step by step and precisely that our revolution can attain its high and universal goals with the help of God.

By thanking the Pasdaran Corps (Guards' Corps) and the Islamic Republic Army, who responded to the Imam's order promptly, we ask the people not to hesitate in supporting them fully.

May the Islamic Revolutionary flag be hoisted higher under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni.

Death to the East and West Imperialism, World Zionism and their domestic mercenaries. Best wishes for all the poor Moslem people on the occasion of this great feast.

Signed by the Mojahedin Organization of Islamic Revolution 31-5-58 [22 Aug 1979].

9156

CSO: 4906

LEADER SAYS GUARDS WILL CARRY OUT REVOLUTION

Tehran BAMDAD in Persian 19 Aug 79 pp 1, 3

[Text] Last night Ayatollah Lahuti, Imam's representative in charge of Pasdaran Corps [The Guards Corps], talked with BAMDAD regarding the activities of the Guards Corps, especially the events which took place in Paveh.

He said: The members of the Guards Corps who were killed today in Paveh and their heads were cut off and their bodies burned and their bodies were not left alone even after they are dead, are some of our cleanest youths from the standpoint of their ideology, opinion and their belief. They do more work and receive the lowest wage.

The members of the Guards Corps are never afraid of dying and they know that if they stay alive, they will live with complete freedom under the flag of Islam and that if they die, they will have suffered martyrdom for Islam and that they will enjoy God's blessings. This is the difference between a Pasdar (Guard) and an ordinary soldier.

The head of the Guards Corps pointed out in another part of his talks: The guards were massacred in Paveh, but our nation, the military forces and the Pasdaran Corps (Guards Corps) dispatched from Tehran and other places alleviated the problem.

He added: "The Guards Corps carries out the orders of Imam and acts under his supervision. But yesterday Imam showed another face regarding the revolution." He said that all of the responsible authorities had not acted in a revolutionary manner. He even addressed the guards and said that they had not acted in a revolutionary manner. He gave a little time not only for the Pasdaran but for the whole nation to act in a revolutionary manner from now on, and not to permit antirevolutionaries to express their existence once again.

In another part of his talks, Ayatollah Lahuti added: "This time the antirevolutionaries have chosen the location of their attack against the revolution very hastily and with unawareness. Although it is true that

Paveh is one of the border and Kurdish inhabited cities, the people of Paveh are interested in the revolution and its leader. We established a corps that served in the kind arms of the people of Paveh. Now, the anti-revolutionaries have surrounded the people of Paveh, not the Corps, because there is not much left of the Corps in Paveh. It is the people who have announced their readiness to defend the corps."

Ayatollah Lahuti also said: "I thank all the Iranian nation who announced their readiness to be dispatched to Paveh and pointed out that if they are needed, they would let them know and get help from this great force."

Message to the Iranian nation:

In the end of his talks, he addressed the Iranian nation and said: "I have a message for the Iranian nation. I want the whole Iranian nation, both Moslems and non-Moslems, to take advantage of this opportunity that has come about for the progress of the country. Those who run these events, if they believe in God, should be afraid of God, and if they are not, they should be afraid of the Iranian nation and know that the other face of the Imam is more decisive than what was seen in the struggles against Satan's regime."

This interview will be published in detail in tomorrow's issue of BAMDAD.

9156

CSO: 4906

GOVERNMENT BLAMES FOREIGNERS FOR KURDESTAN UPRISING

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 3 Sep 79 p 12

[Interview with Dr Sadeq Tabataba'i]

[Text] Last night in a TV interview, Dr Sadeq Tabataba'i, political deputy to the prime minister and the government spokesman, announced the government viewpoints regarding the Kurdistan events, their connection with neighboring countries, and the role of Zionism and imperialism in setting up the Kurdistan war.

In this interview, the government spokesman introduced Israel and international Zionism as the main factor for the events of Kurdistan and added that the antirevolutionaries and Iran's fugitive attackers are supported by the Iraqi government and they are given asylum. The complete interview held with government spokesman is published below:

Question: As the government spokesman, explain the Kurdistan issue from the viewpoint of foreign policy, considering that the superpowers play a role in here. Also, how do our neighboring countries affect Kurdistan?

Answer: As you mentioned, Iran's Islamic revolution has almost ceased the interests of all foreign powers, that is, the interest and profit that the superpowers and international world eaters had in this area prior to Iran's Islamic revolution. After the revolution this was stopped. This is quite natural that they do not stop making disturbances and riots and that from every vulnerable ground of Iran's young Islamic republic, they want to take advantage and weaken the central government by raising disturbances in order to prevent national sovereignty from stability and continuation. We see one of the evident examples in Kurdistan. Of course, they have also started in Khuzestan. But maybe social conflicts and weaknesses were not as much in Kurdistan and the possibility of performing operations was more provided

in Kurdistan, because the climate was more suitable. The foreign forces point to people's dissatisfaction and social conflicts. The dissatisfaction is the result of Iran's former regime, and the provisional government of the Islamic Republic tries to alleviate these problems as soon as possible. Nevertheless, the antirevolutionary elements have prevented such helps in Sistan, Baluchestan and Kurdistan. They blocked the roads to construction (Jehad) groups and troops. They took their belongings and equipment, and killed them. Now, those who have a hand in Kurdistan are the aids of the former shah. Some of the officers of the dissolved Javidan Guard are doing activities under the leadership of Palizban and with the cooperation of Oveysi. In the last issue of DER SPIEGEL magazine, it was reported that in the last 3 weeks, Palizban had met Bakhtiar in Paris, whereas 2 days prior to this meeting Ashraf had met Bakhtiar in Paris. The same report indicated that through the shah, Ardeshir Zahedi had put 200 million dollars at the disposal of Oveysi to spend in Kurdistan. Furthermore, several thousand Soviet Kalashnikov rifles are said to have been brought to the country through Bulgaria (smuggled). There are non-Iranian Kurds who are active in the area. There are a great number of individuals who are neither Kurd nor Persian. Non-Iranian Kurds are also active. The important issue that should be noticed is that most of the foreign press which always attacked Iran's policy are still attacking and bringing up the issue that the Kurds who were massacred in the former regime are also massacred in this regime and state that there has not been any difference between the two regimes, unaware of the fact that a Zionist plan and a propaganda program against Iran's Islamic revolution have started throughout the world. However, the fact that the Kurds were massacred in the past and present is true. There is one fundamental difference. At that time our Kurdish brothers and sisters were suppressed by government forces. Today, they are suppressed by antigovernment forces. Today, those who massacre the Kurdish people are those who have emerged against the interests of the Kurdish people and against the central government. The central government wants to establish peace and tranquility over there. By sending representatives and groups and walking in their areas, our Kurdish brothers and sisters want the army to be dispatched to establish peace and tranquility. However, the attacking forces who are supported from outside prevent this.

Notice that most part of the operations in the area are directed by Israel. Four Israeli spies, two Iraqi noncommissioned officers, and a French correspondent were arrested. It happened 3 days ago when a French correspondent was found in the area. He had a pseudonym, a counterfeit passport and a forged card from the Ministry of National Guidance. He had war maps with him. In reality, this indicates the aggression of a foreigner in this area. If we look at it in a long range, I believe that international Zionism and Israel intend to create a second Israel in this area, that is, to create a common region by the Kurds of Iran's Kurdistan, Iraq's Kurdistan and Turkey's Kurdistan and to create a new country. Now, how that country can live from the viewpoint of economics, and from viewpoint of agricultural products, that is a separate issue. But, anyway, this is Israel's plan to compensate for its defeat in the Middle East in this way.

Question: Sorry for inter-rupting, Doctor, but before you go on, two matters have occurred to me. One is regarding Bakhtiar and his relations with the agents of the shah. In some of his interviews Bakhtiar has clearly said that he has no contacts with the shah and his agents. Secondly, some of the news agencies do poisoning and exaggerate about this issue. What is your opinion?

Answer: First of all Mr. Bakhtiar's claim has no basis for us. That is whatever that he claims in whatever ground. And, he can say a lot of things. About the issue that I mentioned, as I said SPIEGLE magazine writes that 3 weeks ago indicating the exact date, time and duration of the meeting and precisely stated that 2 days after the meeting between Ashraf and Bakhtiar, Palizban met him in Paris. Bakhtiar should have denied the matter. Therefore, what he says is not true and I continue proceeding forward, whereas I see that again Ardeshir Zahedi has put the final figure of two hundred million dollars at the disposal of Palizban.

Regarding the news agencies, it is true. Notice that other than TASS News Agency, the leaders of the four large news agencies in the world are Zionists. They are supported by Zionists. The news that they report on Iran's Kurdistan is quite to the contrary. It is completely contradictory and conflicting. The Islamic Republic army has never massacred the Kurdish people, whereas all the news is a lie about the massacre of the Kurdish people by the army and Iran's Islamic Republic. To the extent that the minister of foreign affairs of Sweden finds it necessary to warn the Iranian government for the unmerciful massacre and attack to the Kurdish people. In his words, "The unmerciful severe actions that today are being taken under the name of religion against the Kurds can only result in intensifying cruelty and harshness." Whereas this Mr. Hans Blix, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sweden cannot understand this matter so much, or, he does not permit himself to understand, or he does not have the mission to understand, or he does not want to understand that this massacre is being done by antirevolutionaries against the Kurdish people and that it does not have a religious aspect. It is true that 'Ezzedin Hosseyni was banished as a traitor to the Kurdish people by the Iranian regime, the Iranian people and the Kurdish people. But don't forget that Mr. Moftizadeh, supporting the Iranian regime and the Kurdish people, has confirmed the actions of the Iranian government from the same religious position that 'Ezzedin Hosseyni was moving; that is, Sunnite position. He is supporting the brothers--the Kurdish people against the attackers who have stood against Iran's Islamic Revolution and the central government. Therefore, allow me to address the minister of foreign affairs of Sweden and say: Do not let the feeling that the Iranian government and people had towards the Swedish government and people for their objectivity in the last few months before the revolution's victory regarding issues in Iran, seeing the realities and taking action against Iran's regime, be damaged. And that with this unreal insight to force the Iranian government to make a revision in its relations with the Swedish government. Certainly, the Swedish government will not confirm Mr. Hans Blix' opinion. But, on the whole we can say that Israel, international capitalists, Europe, America and Zionist news agencies have a hand in the Kurdistan events. With the help that the shah

and his aids are giving in this area, perhaps it would be interesting to bring up another issue that may be related to this. That is, since yesterday, we have received reports that the institutes related to Inam Musa Sadr in Southern Lebanon, some of which were being run by Dr. Mostafa Chamran, who is at present doing activities against the anti-revolutionaries in Kurdistan, have been attacked and that two of the youths of that orphanage or industrial school were killed. Leftist elements in Southern Lebanon accused of cooperating with Israel had surrounded the school and under the excuse of retaliating Dr. Chamran's operations in Kurdistan, they had entered the Institute and killed those two youths.

Regarding connections between events of Kurdistan and the neighboring countries, Dr. Tabataba'i said:

In diplomatic words, the Iraqi government announces that there is good relations and that it wants to strengthen the relations. On the other hand, we hear that the antirevolutionaries and attackers who are killed and scattered by the gendarmerie, army, revolutionary guards of Iran's Islamic Republic, go to the other side of the border. It is quite natural that if they do not have a base or shelter on the other side of the border, asylum does not mean anything. Anyway, the arrest of two Iraqi officers a few days ago in that area indicates other realities than the diplomatic statements. We hope that in future investigations and the negotiations that are being held right now between Dr. Yazdi and Saddam Hosseyn in Havana, these matters would be cleared so that the Iranian government would know its position regarding its neighboring country.

Regarding the Turkish Kurds, Dr. Sadeq Tabataba'i said:

In my opinion, of course the Turkish Kurds, like Iranian Kurds, have the feeling of patriotism, and seeking freedom and independence. Independence not in the meaning of autonomy brought up by separatists. That is being independent in their own decisions. However, we have reports and it has also been published in HURRIYAT newspaper published in Kuwait that 5,000 armed Turkish Kurds have arrived in Kurdistan, Iran by each receiving \$1300 and that they have joined the lines of those who take action against the interests of the Kurdish people in Iran. Investigations should be made. The Turkish government has denied this.

9044

CSO: 4906

SHARI'AT-MADARI DISAPPROVES 'SEPARATION' OF KORDESTAN

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 29 Aug 79 p 10

[Text] His Holiness Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari, who came to Mashhad several days before the start of Ramadan to visit the shrine of Imam Reza and spend the month in the holy city, flew back to Qom via Tehran yesterday morning at 8:10.

He was seen off at the airport by a large crowd of 'olema, holy men, and other people of all classes.

Before leaving, the ayatollah gave a special interview in which he expressed his opinion on the Kurdish question. He said that Kurdistan and the Kurdish people are part of Iran, and that the Muslim Kurds themselves "would never allow a unscrupulous surgeon to amputate a perfectly healthy limb in an unnecessary operation."

Asked about his views on Kordestan, the ayatollah said that the Kurds "are our brothers in Islam and the Iranian nation. What do the people who are stirring up fighting think they are doing? They do not have to fight in order to obtain their provincial and regional rights. The Iranian government considers Kordestan a province of Iran, with all of the legal and religious rights enjoyed by the other provinces. However, the Iranian nation will never agree to the separation of Kordestan. The army, as guardians of the unity of the nation, will never permit it, and will do their duty to prevent it if the need arises. Are the instigators of unrest in Kordestan relying solely on their own resources, or do they have external assistance? If they are relying on their own resources, the government and the army will do their duty. If they are supported by a foreign power, they should know that the 'barren earth' policy recognizes no father or mother. The government will confer and settle its differences with the Kurds' foreign supporters, leaving the Kurds unprotected. We believe that Kordestan and the Kurdish people are an indissoluble part of Iran." The ayatollah then made the comparison to a "healthy limb, which the Kurds themselves would never allow an unscrupulous surgeon to remove in an unnecessary operation."

When asked whether he had any special message for the Kurdish people, the ayatollah said that "those who are thinking of rebelling should realize that no problem is solved in battle, by spilling blood, bereaving mothers and ruining men's lives. It is better that the Kurds should observe this honorable verse." (A verse from the Qur'an was read, and then translated by the ayatollah.)

The verse was translated as meaning that "If two groups of believers get into a fight, an attempt should be made to reconcile them. If one side is unwilling to make peace, then war should be waged against them until they submit to God's word. If they submit, a just peace should be made between them and their opponents. The group which is the transgressor should make peace, either before continuing the battle or after being defeated. The former alternative is obviously preferable. Therefore, those who ignite the spark of war and get into wars or battle should lay down their weapons and make peace with their enemies. Otherwise, they will be compelled to do so by force. In spite of our attachment to Kordestan, we must be mindful of our duty as the government of the Islamic Republic to maintain stability and security in all parts of Iran.

8921

CSO: 4906

FOUR ISRAELI SPIES ARRESTED IN KORDESTAN

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 29 Aug 79 p 1

[Text] Yesterday, the United Press, quoting a government spokesman, reported that four Israeli spies were arrested in a clash in Kordestan. According to the United Press, Sadeq Tabataba'i, spokesman for the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, said in an interview with a United Press correspondent regarding the situation in Kordestan, "Four Israeli spies were captured in clashes between the Islamic Republic's Army and the dissolved Kordestan Party and this shows that the Zionists are trying to create a new Israel in the area."

Yesterday, too, the Guards Corps announced that two Iraqi officers were captured in Paveh and were sent to Tehran. The report of the capture of two Iraqi officers in Paveh and their arrest and despatch to Tehran was reported yesterday by the PARS NEWS AGENCY. ETTELA'AT, too, published that report yesterday.

8514
CSO: 4906

IRAN

FORMER SHAH'S '\$6 BILLION CONTRIBUTION' TO VARIOUS GROUPS IN KORDESTAN

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 28 Aug 79 p 2

[Text] This morning the newspaper JOMHURIY-E ESLAMI has reported a Mexican radio broadcast as follows: "Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi, the deposed Shah of Iran, has provided 6 billion Dollars to terrorist and antirevolutionary groups in Kordestan so that they stir up opposition to the Iranian Islamic government through strife, insurrections, and slaughter."

Analysts believe that such a budget has been implemented under CIA's supervision, the cooperation of Ardeshtir Zahedi and former Lieutenant-General Palizban, and the cooperation of leftist groups. Furthermore, the slaughter of Paveh's innocent residents has been linked to that political scheme.

Recently, as a result of Iraq's tilt towards the West and the assistance provided Israel to safeguard its security, Iraq's political modus operandi has assumed a new character. ETTELA'AT's correspondent reports that Iraq's internal upheavals to turn the country towards the West are ongoing: Shiite political figures are either behind bars or have been executed, bloody purges have taken place within Iraqi leadership, and several active Iraqi Kurdish personalities have been executed.

Not long ago, Saddam Hoseyn toured Kordestan to ascertain its security. According to political analysts, the campaign launched against Iran's Islamic Revolution with funds provided by the Shah and CIA's assistance have met with the approving smile of the Eastern bloc and the active cooperation of leftist groups.

8291

CSO: 4906

NATIONAL FRONT TO SEND GOODWILL DELEGATION TO KORDESTAN

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 29 Aug 79 p 1

[Text] Members of the National Front's Central Committee, Iran's old-time politicians, after several meetings and talks concerning events in Kordestan, finally decided to send a goodwill delegation to the Province of Kordestan.

Asghar Parsa, National Front spokesman, in a conversation with ETTELA'AT's political correspondent after last night's meeting, said, "The events in Kordestan have greatly saddened the National Front. The picture printed on the front page of ETTELA'AT tonight (last night) moved everyone on the council, and I am announcing that the National Front of Iran has been extremely touched by the outbreak of fratricide in the western areas of the country and it believes that all disputes between brothers must be solved through talks and mutual understanding. Therefore, it is proposing that a goodwill delegation be formed composed of seven members of the National Front whose names will be announced later and seven national and governmental dignitaries and personalities chosen from among the following distinguished personalities: Mr. Naziyeh, Engineer Bani Asadi, Dr 'Ali Asghar Haj Seyyed Javadi, Dr Mehran, Engineer Shari'atmadari, Yahya Sadeq Vaziri, Engineer Reza Pasandideh, Reza Saqafi, Dr Asghari, General Majalali, Dr Rahim 'Abadi, and Dr Mahmud 'Enayat. The National Front also proposes that talks begin between the provisional government and the local leaders and authorities of Kordestan based on preservation of the principle of the territorial integrity and independence of the country and observance of the rights of the people of our dear land so that, God willing, the preliminaries might be provided for abandoning hostility, avoiding fratricide, and controlling and resolving the agitations and hostile actions and so that the people of Iran will not witness any more killing and murder than they already have and the Imperialist and anti-revolutionary cannot take advantage of the present disturbed situation and retard the course of our great revolution."

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C90: 4906

EZZEDIN HOSEYNI: 'DO NOT LET IRAN BECOME A SECOND LEBANON'

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 29 Aug 79 p 3

[Text] In a telegram to Minister of Labor Daryush Foruhar, leader of the Iran People's Party, Sheykh Ezzedin Hoseyni asked him to take action regarding the unwanted fighting and fratricide in this area.

Daryush Foruhar was not willing to talk today about the steps he intends to take regarding the Kordestan case; but, one of the officials of the Iran People's Party told ETTELA'AT's political correspondent that Foruhar is devoting himself completely to studying the Kordestan question. The text of Ezzedin Hoseyni's telegram is as follows:

"Minister of Labor Daryush Foruhar,

"Greetings,

"Certainly we are both thinking of the same goal which, indeed, is the greatness and solidarity of the nation of Iran. In this sensitive and fateful time when Reactionism and Imperialism are trying to launch an attack by other means to retain their supremacy, to impose civil war on the area under the pretext of religion, and to convert Iran into a second Lebanon, Your Excellency is expected to understand your national and patriotic responsibility in this sensitive situation. We will all struggle together to end this unwanted war that has been forced on the Kurdish people, and this will be possible when the demand for justice of the Kurdish, Arab, Baluchi, and Turkoman peoples and the rest of Iran's people is realized.

"Sheykh Ezzedin Hoseyni"

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CSO: 4906

TWO SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY MEMBERS JAILED

Tehran **BAMDAD** in Persian 27 Aug 79 p 2

[Text] The Islamic Revolutionary Court of Ahvaz sentenced Mahsa Hashemi and Fatemeh Falahi, two members of the Socialist Labor Party in Ahvaz, to life imprisonment outside of Khuzestan and Kurdistan.

The **PARS NEWS AGENCY** reports from Ahvaz:

Yesterday afternoon (Saturday), the Islamic Revolutionary Court of Ahvaz was held to attend to the charges brought against Fatemeh Falahi, known as Nayereh, and Banu Malek Amir Pur (Mahsa Hashemi), members of the Socialist Labor Party of Ahvaz.

At the end of the session, the two defendants were sentenced to life imprisonment out of the oil-producing regions and Kurdistan to be watched for possible dangerous contacts. The court announced their charges as follows:

Anti-Islamic and antipeople activities, making provocations against the central government, and accusing the government of creating suffocation and riots, suppressing democracy, practicing intimidation, creating the disaster of Naqdeh, etc., praising the Kurdish anti-revolutionaries by persuading them to engage in armed fighting against the central government, preparing the sensitive environment of Khuzestan for an explosion, spreading poisonous ideas and sexy magazines, and holding membership in the executive board of the Socialist Labor Party of Ahvaz region.

9156

CSO: 4906

ALL GENERAL TUFANIAN'S CONTRACTS FAVORED FOREIGNERS

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 6 Sep 79 p 13

/Text/ It has been said in the Tehran's Islamic Revolutionary Court that all General Tufanian's contracts favored foreign countries.

The Second Section of the Tehran's Islamic Revolutionary Court has begun yesterday morning a second session of examination of charges against active-duty junior sergeant Abdolhamid Aq-ajani and Akbar Sadra'i, staff member of the Armanents Organization of the Army.

In the case under examination, junior sergeant Abdolhamid Aq-ajani has been accused of voluntary collaboration with agents of counterintelligence of the Guards Division. In the indictment brought in by the Revolutionary Prosecutor's Office, Aq-ajani has been accused of giving information against servicemen to the counterintelligence, and that it was due to a direct denunciation by the above named to the counterintelligence that the martyred private, Mansur Hkaliq-i, had been arrested and subjected to torture. Thus runs the complaint by the father of the martyred Mansur Khaliq-i against the accused, which is on file.

The accused said in his defense plea: I did not participate in anyone's arrest, and as regards instructions of the counterintelligence, to which the prosecution alluded in the indictment, I must say that no instructions were given to me by the counterintelligence.

Concerning the events of 17 Ahahrivar I must say that all the soldiers of the garrison of the Guards Division, without exception, had left the garrison and I too was with them. The location of our unit was in South Shahbaz, and when we were coming down from Meidan-e Zhaleh I was deeply shocked by seeing dead people who were killed by others. As regards my passing information about martyred Mansur Khaliq-i, I should say that I acknowledge that charge, and he was arrested a few days after my information was given. I have given thrice information to the counterintelligence, which, apart from the one leading to the arrest of Khaliq-i, concerned thefts committed by soldiers in the motor depot, and a rude behavior of an

officer named Lt. Haj'Abbas toward soldiers under his command. When the above named became aware that I notified the counterintelligence information on his rude attitude toward soldiers, he put me in jail. The time of imprisonment of martyred Khaliq-i amounted to 56 days, but I have been in prison for almost 5 months.

The brother of the accused, who is a technician in the Air Force, appeared in court as a witness, and brought to the attention of the court that his brother collaborated with revolutionary forces. He said: my brother, after leaving his service at the First Fighter Base devoted his efforts to the preservation of achievements of the Islamic Revolution in Iran. The brother of the accused submitted to the court a number of documents to prove the innocence of his brother.

After the end of defense plea of the first accused, the second accused, Akbar Sadra'i, staff member of the Organization for the Maintenance of Armaments of the National Army of Iran, presented his plea, saying: In fact I took over my duties in the Organization of Maintenance of Armaments of the National Army on Dey 1357 /22 Dec 78/. I have to tell the court that according to the indictment of the Prosecution I have been accused of giving information and documents to foreigners, and in particular to the citizens of America. I had no connection or participation in concluding the defense contracts. Basically, I was not in a position to have such power. I had neither the right to sign nor was I in a position where I might have had access to important documents. All the contracts, which at time time of General Tufanian, were concluded between Iran and foreign countries were in favor of the other countries. After the Islamic Revolution of Iran, since all contracts of Iran with foreign countries were desolved, I had no more work, and I was put in charge of annulment of house-lease contracts for American advisers. General Madani told me to endeavor to annul house lease contracts of these foreigners by the Farvardin /21 March/ in order to avoid a loss to the government on this account. House rental fees of American advisers in Tehran amounted to about 6 million rials monthly and had to be paid by the Ministry of Defense.

With the conclusion of the morning court session, the continuation of the defense plea for the second accused was postponed to the evening session.

1015
CSO: 4906

NATIONALIZATION OF IRAN-RUSSIAN BANK TO BE DISCUSSED WITH SOVIET DELEGATION

Tehran EITELA'AT in Persian 29 Aug 79 p 12

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced in a communique that a delegation will be sent to Iran by the Soviet Government to hold talks regarding the nationalization of the Iran-Russian Bank. The text of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' communique is as follows:

As a result of the decision of the provisional government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to nationalize all of the banks in the country and the note memoire submitted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Soviet Embassy in Tehran regarding this matter, the Charge d'Affaires of the Soviet Embassy, on 4 Shahrivar 1358 [26 August 1979], delivered his government's communique to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

According to this communique, the Soviet Government is willing to send a delegation to Iran to discuss problems pertaining to the nationalization of the Iran-Russian Bank because that government has officially recognized the right of any independent country to nationalize various firms within its jurisdiction. While citing the Iran-Russian Bank's past history of activities and the good-neighborly ties between the two countries, the hope was expressed in this communique that nationalization of the aforementioned bank will not prove damaging to the Soviet Union.

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CSO: 4906

PROMINENT FEDA'I KHALQ MEMBER UNDER PROSECUTION

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 29 Aug 79 p 1

[Text] Hamad Sheybani, prominent member of the Feda'i Khalq guerrillas, was prosecuted by the Tehran Public Prosecutor of the Islamic Revolution. Hamad who, after his tumultuous arrest in Mehrabad Airport, was released on bail from Revolution Prison, once again, has been accused of guerrilla and subversive activities.

The Guards who, by order of the Public Prosecutor of the Revolution, had gone to Hamad's home yesterday to arrest him did not find him in order to make the arrest; but, they found in his living quarters a large quantity of medicines, which had been packed in special medicine cartons for despatch to Naqdeh, Gonbad, Kermanshah, and Bandar Turkoman (formerly Bandar Shah). The addresses of those who were to receive the medicines in these cities had been written on the backs of the cartons with magic marker.

The medicines were confiscated by the Guards and were turned over to the infirmary at Evin Prison.

Our correspondent writes: Yesterday, former Minister of Health and Welfare Dr Sheikholeslamzadeh who, following sentencing, now is responsible for treating the prisoners in Evin Prison, took possession of these medicines and began to analyze them. He said, "Some of these medicines are rare in Iran, and are even unavailable, and all of these medicines very probably were imported." Sheikholeslamzadeh estimated the value of the medicines at more than 500,000 tomans. The medicines discovered are used mostly for preventing hemorrhaging and treating wounds. Among the medicines are various types and varieties of tranquilizers, a large quantity of bandages, special surgical gloves, and powerful anti-biotic pills.

Considering what the medicines are used for and the addresses written on the backs of the cartons, one of the officials of Evin Prison said, "Certainly, Hamad intended to send this medicine to Democrats in various cities." More-

over, Dr Sheikholeslamzadeh explained, "The medicines were ordered from America and the person who ordered them undoubtedly had studied in America because he knew the special American abbreviations and terms."

The medicines discovered were sent to the Evin Prison infirmary to be used gradually in the treatment of the prisoners.

8514

C90: 4906

GUARDS CHIEF REPORTS ON STEEL MILL PROBLEMS

Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Hojjat al-Eslam Lahuti, director of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Iran, who went to Esfahan on the orders of Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic revolution in Iran, in order to investigate difficulties and problems at the Esfahan steel mill, today in an interview with the PARS correspondent in Esfahan detailed the results of his investigations concerning problems of the steel mill.

At the beginning, Hojjatal-Eslam Lahuti said: I am happy to announce that as the result of 20 hours of discussions which I had with a number of engineers of the steel complex in the presence of the minister of industries and mines and the managing director of the Esfahan steel mill, problems and difficulties have been solved and the engineers who resigned have withdrawn their resignations and have reached an understanding. God willing, they will start their work from next Saturday without any disagreement or clashes.

He continued: As the result of the understanding which was achieved in the presence of the minister of industries and mines and the managing director of the steel mill, it was decided that the Esfahan steel mill should appoint five persons as the administrative and coordinating council. These people should be elected through the votes of the employees of the steel mill who are qualified to do so and after election they should start their work. At the same time the present managing director of the steel mill will continue in his post.

Hojjat al-Eslam Lahuti added that during the previous day in a speech he made in Emam Sadeq Mosque at a gathering of steel mill workers he reminded them that a go-slow is against the interests of the revolution and the Imam will not be happy if the workers or the employees and all the people of the country who have participated in the revolution are involved in go-slows. At the end of this interview he said: In this meeting I asked all the workers of the steel mill to continue their work with greater resolve.

CSO: 4906

TEHRAN OFFICIAL DESCRIBES 'BRIEF REBELLION' AT QASR PRISON

Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1830 GMT 5 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Following some shooting in the Qasr prison, Brigadier General (Pev), the chief of prison affairs, commented on the situation in an interview with out correspondent:

[Begin recording] [Question] General, as you know, a short while ago some firing into the air was heard at the Qasr prison. This has caused some apprehension among the people, resulting in some people arriving at the scene. And some Tehran citizens may telephone us to inquire about the incident. May I ask you, as head of the Qasr prison, to give us some information?

[Answer] I am the chief of prison affairs. Right now, I am here in the Qasr prison. This was rather a brief rebellion. There is no need for worry, for the rebellion has subsided. The rebellion started because a number of addicted prisoners went on strike and provoked other prisoners to rebellion. There is no need at all for our Tehran citizens to worry. As I said, the rebellion has been brought under control. Therefore, the people of Tehran should not worry. A number of telephone calls have been made to the Qasr prison; we thank the people for their cooperation most sincerely. Please tell them not to worry; there were simply a few shots fired into the air in order to scare prisoners and send them back to their cells.

[Question] Therefore, no serious incident has taken place in Tehran?

[Answer] No, these were only some addicted prisoners who set some blankets on fire, which was put down by the firemen. Right now the prison is surrounded by officials and revolution guards as well as the police department, relief battalion and other relief forces. I ask the people of Tehran to disperse from the vicinity of the prison, for, God forbid, as a result of shooting by the revolution guards they might get hurt because the guards might think they were shooting at escaping prisoners. [end recording]

CSO: 4906

REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS PATROL STORES

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 28 Aug 79 p 12

[Text] Tens of tins of cooking oil and compote have been sold by the enforcement section of the A'azam Mosque komiteh in Dr Sharia'ati St. A KEYHAN reporter on the scene said that a number of komiteh members were busy handing out cans of oil and soap powder from one of the stores on Sarbaz Avenue.

One of the komiteh said, "We have gotten a number of complaints from people in the area that sellers were selling goods at high prices or hoarding them in spite of the fact that they had plenty on hand. We investigated these complaints. We sent our own people as buyers and it was clear that stores were hoarding goods and refused to sell. Therefore, we found the merchandise and have sold it for the usual price."

We spoke to a number of women standing in line. They were angry and said that when they wanted to buy they were told there was no soap powder, but now it was evident what the truth was.

A responsible official of the komiteh in Salim Square said that an enforcement unit had been formed to fight profiteering. This band had inspected 500 stores and confiscated goods from 25, which will be sold at the usual prices. In order to stop profiteering in fruit they have bought fruit and sold it themselves at the basic price. They plan to do the same with hoarded meat and most frozen foods, which will be made available to the people at the normal prices. The komiteh will also inspect butchers to see if they are observing the announced prices for meat.

Our reporter says that the komitehs will also inspect other stores and the owners' homes, particularly in the areas of Salsabil, Hashemi, Qasr-ol-Dasht and Khosh. If there is hoarding, such goods will be sold.

The watch units have also asked people to inform them where hoarded goods are stored and these too will be sold at the proper prices.

GUERRILLA NETWORK DISCOVERED IN KHUZESTAN

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 28 Aug 79 p 3

[Text] A large guerrilla network engaged in sabotage has been discovered in Khorramshahr.

In Khorramshahr, the Islamic Revolutionary guards surrounded the hideout of Sheykh Hamed Zoveydat, one of the leaders of the Political Organization of the Arab People, and also the leader of a large guerrilla network, seizing him, his son 'Ali, and 3 others.

Naser Jabaruti, commander of the Khorramshahr guards, declared:

"On several occasions Sheykh Hamed has secretly gone to Iraq. He is one of the leaders of so-called Political Organization of the Arab People, who has had close ties with the Iraqis and has been involved in a series of shipments of weapons from abroad into Iran.

He was also the leader of the "Black Thursday" operation in Khorramshahr, which he carried out with his sons.

Sheykh Hamed is the leader of a large mercenary guerrilla group. His capture and that of his son 'Ali has thwarted the activities of that guerrilla network.

A number of Kalashnikov machineguns, Colts, and cartridges have been discovered in Sheykh Hamed's hideout. And in his son Ali's pocket guards found a letter requesting his Iraqi agents to send 15 sabotage guerrillas.

Among the arrested there is a ferryman who transports the saboteurs from Iraq to Iran across the Shatt al Arab.

Also among the arrested are: a leader for the shipment of weapons and another individual engaged in robberies and sabotage activities.

Sheykh Hamed has received large funds from his Iraqi agents to hire anti-revolutionary mercenaries in Khuzestan.

At present, Sadam and Saleh, 2 other sons of Sheykh Hamed, who have been implicated in sabotage activities in Khuzestan, are runaways.

AYATOLLAH NURI REPORTS ON 'ANTI-REVOLUTIONARY PLOTS'

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 28 Aug 79 p 3

[Text] For 2 months Ayatollah Nuri, special representative of Imam Khomeyni in Europe, has toured Switzerland, Belgium, France, England, Sweden, Holland, Denmark, Austria, and Luxembourg, to ascertain the situation and problems of Iranian students and nationals. He has now returned to Iran and submitted his report to Imam Khomeyni. After meeting the Imam, Ayatollah Nuri was interviewed on the results of his mission by the PARS NEWS AGENCY. He stated:

"There has been a proliferation of Iranian students throughout Europe. Accordingly, there has been a need to be apprised of their educational and living conditions. During and after the Islamic Revolution, Iranian students have served as the voice of the Iranian nation to the ears of the world. In view of that, the Imam sent me to Europe to establish closer ties and survey the problems of Iranian students and other Iranian nationals.

In general, during my tour, I have studied 7 issues: the situation of Iranian students; the condition of Iranian embassies and consulates general; the problems of non-student Iranians, the activities of leftist groups, the grievances of Western groups vis-a-vis the Iranian Revolution, and the modus operandi/anti-revolutionary intrigues by stooges of Zionism, imperialism, and the former Shah regime."

Guidance and Assistance to Students

Subsequently Ayatollah Nuri outlined measures aimed at preventing Iranian students in Europe from being duped by deceitful groups. Among such measures he stressed the necessity of establishing within Iran centers for the guidance and assistance of students so that students do not leave uninformed.

Furthermore, Ayatollah Nuri deemed it necessary to provide facilities and scholarships to promising students and to find jobs for graduates of foreign schools prior to their return to Iran.

Anti-revolutionary Intrigues

Ayatollah Nuri then criticized the outrageous salaries of Iranian diplomats and the renting of extravagant buildings by Iranian diplomats and other members of Iranian embassies.

He also assailed anti-revolutionary plots in Europe, saying:

"Antirevolutionary elements, criminals, and stooges of the former regime (some of whom have been inspired by colonialist aggressors) have fled abroad. They are now instigating intrigues and are organizing meetings against the Iranian Revolution, and unfortunately with utmost freedom. Even the Baha'is have been holding meetings and staging demonstrations against the Iranian Revolution and the leader of the Iranian Revolution in Perugia, Italy.

8291

CSO: 4906

REVOLUTIONARY COURTS TO TRY PROFITEERS

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 26 Aug 79 p 3

[Text] In a radio-television news conference yesterday Azari Qomi, judge of the Islamic revolutionary court of Tehran, announced that profiteers will be discovered and stopped by the court. The judge said that the main objective of the court immediately after the victory of the revolution was to try those connected with the previous regime. He said that based on a proposal approved by the revolutionary council a short time ago, the Islamic court has the right to stop any activity aimed at diverting or opposing the revolution.

Qomi added, "We will deal severely with present or future agitation in factories that hinders production or is not in the interest of the factory as well as with individuals who harm the revolution."

The judge said in regard to profiteers that it is possible that a number of them don't want to harm the revolution and only want more profit from high prices. But because overcharging hurts the poor and unfortunate, particularly the underprivileged class, it does severe harm to the revolution.

In regard to the measures to be taken, the judge said they would be designed to facilitate trade and not violate religious law. But it will all be under the supervision of the court and anyone not conforming will be stopped.

9448
CSO: 4906

WATER AND ELECTRICITY PAYMENTS EMBEZZLED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 27 Aug 79 p 9

[Excerpts] The central Islamic court has begun hearing charges against Yusef Khoshkish, former director general of the National and Central banks. The hearings began day before yesterday, Saturday. After a reading by Kalamollah Majid and verses by the president of the court, a representative of the court read a request from the Islamic prosecutor for punishment. He then said:

"Yusef Khoshkish, who for a period of 17 years was director general of the National Bank and since Bahman 56 [21 Jan 77-19 Feb 78] until the end of Dey 57 [22 Dec 78-20 Jan 79], director of the Central Bank, is accused of paralyzing the nation's economy and making huge, improper loans to industrial groups, i.e., loaning 400 million tomans without security solely on the basis of a promissory note. He kept the rial tied to the dollar, which cost the government billions in payments. He participated directly in the hated, anti-peoples government of the Pahlevis. He sent millions of tomans abroad during the revolution and sent funds abroad for members of the previous regime and those in the corrupt Pahlevi court. He depleted the bank's reserves by improperly exporting them. He had connections with the court and cooperated fully with the military government against striking bank employees during the revolution. He discriminated between employees of the bank and he had relations with the now-abolished SAVAK. Of these things Khoshkish is accused."

The court's representative continued in justifying the request for punishment, "On 2/10/58 [30 Apr 79], that is at the height of national revolution, Mr Khoshkish transferred 200 million dollars to America in the name of the army. Also by his direct order and signature 44,031,364 rials were turned over to Nahavandi, chief of Farah's cabinet. This money was spent in profligate living by members of the court. In another case, in the years 53 and 54 the Pahlevi Foundation wanted to build a center in New York and asked for 42 million dollars, of which 12 million was used to demolish an old building in New York. Mr Khoshkish authorized this loan.

"On 30/8/57 [21 Nov 78] he agreed to extend the repayment of this loan for 18 months. Based on statements by Mr Masibi, chief accountant of the currency and metals section, and Mr Tumaj, head of the same office, the bank lost between 500 and 600,000 tomans annually in sale of coins, the orders of Mr Khoshkish.

"He is also accused of giving orders to adjust the bank's computers to increase income from water and electricity receipts from which he profited by millions of tomans annually."

Cited as examples of loans were: 120 million tomans from the Bazaar branch of the bank alone to Hajbar Yazdani, 400 million to Qasem Sarbani, 400 million to Mehdi Mirashrafi, and 150 million to Mansur Yasini. The court's representative added, "These deeds, which diverted the peoples' money into the pockets of thieves, the accused continued for 17 years during his tenure at the National and then at the Central Bank. He opened accounts in many foreign banks and sent millions of tomans abroad and amassed great wealth. Some of this, according to the accused, consists of: an apartment house with a garden of 50,000 meters in the north, an 18,000-meter garden in (Cannes?), a 4,000-meter garden in Vardavord, a 20,000-meter garden in Reza (north), 1,000 meters of land in Shahavar, a 7,000-meter garden in Chabkesar, a 5,000 meter property in Suldeh and vast properties in Kalardasht. The accused, his wife and close associates also held in their names other properties here and abroad. The accused is a member of the imperialist freemasons and cooperated in every way with the military government against the employees of the bank during the revolution. He made a speech on television when the revolution was about to achieve victory. His every action was on behalf of the hated Pahlevi regime.

"The weightiest evidence against the accused is the judgment of the dead and downtrodden, dead that without a doubt the Khoshkishes are responsible for. In the wealth of these people can be found the source of the suffering of a pitiful nation. These are the white collar criminals who by their artifices have plundered the goods of poor people.

"On the occasion of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Reza Khan he had minted 87 ten Pahlevi coins and donated them to 87 officials of the regime. On the basis of documents, testimony of citizens and associates of the accused we give him to the court for punishment as an offense to God and a corruption on earth."

After this speech, Mr Khoshkish began his defense. He denied all the charges against him. At the end of the first of his defense the court adjourned at 7:30 in the evening. The second session was postponed until yesterday morning.

GOVERNMENT TO CONFISCATE IDLE LANDS

Tehran BAMDAD in Pers on 19 Aug 79 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt] The regulations for the cancellation of right of ownership of idle lands in the city and the circumstances of developing them was passed by the council of ministers and communicated to the Ministry of Housing for execution.

Yesterday Eng Mostafa Katira'i, minister of housing and city development, announced the above-mentioned statement and added the law for the cancellation of ownership of idle lands located within city boundaries proposed by the Ministry of Housing on Tir [29 June] was passed by the Revolutionary Council. He pointed out that the government is bound to confiscate the idle lands if they are not developed in a specific period of time to be put at the disposal of people and organizations that need such properties.

Small Lots

Based on anticipations made in the above-mentioned act, the owners of small lots who did not have homes could take action in constructing suitable buildings in their own lands within 3 years. Following this legal act, the Ministry of Housing and City Development took action in compiling regulations for its implementation by using the views and comments of the experts. The final draft of the regulations was submitted to the Council of Ministers for their approval. After approval, this ministry was notified to enforce the regulations.

Division of Lands

The minister of housing and city development said: "Some people have interpreted the news on the confiscation of idle lands as nationalization and have supported it. Another group has said that it contradicts religious principles. On the whole it was concluded that the law is vague because the government had to wait a long time so that the duration specified for developing large lots would have been over, and there would have been an opportunity for some other land speculators. In reality, this was impossible, because the owners of large lands should have built small towns and

residential complexes. Under the existing conditions, no one would have been ready or able to do so, because it requires an enormous investment and also issuing permission for dividing and selling the lands. This is also contrary to religious principles according to which the land belongs to the person who has developed it. Therefore, with the approval of an amendment, the large lands are not covered by this act and they immediately will be confiscated by the government. But the owners of small lots--in small cities of under 200,000 people, 1500 meters, and in large cities, 1,000 meters--are allowed to develop their lands within 4 to 6 years commensurate with the condition of each city."

Conditions for Turning Over the Lands

The minister of housing and city development added: "The regulations and the amendment for lands entitled to this act cover the definitions of development from view point of the act, the terms for transferring the idle lands to the people, and its executive regulations. The goal was to protect the rights of those people who have small lots but are not financially able to develop their land."

Confiscation of Lands

In response to the question of when the underdeveloped lands will be confiscated by the government, Eng Mostafa Katira'i said: "According to Article 23 of regulations, the Ministry of Housing and City Development will determine and announce the date in each city. The owners of large lands who do not consider their properties as idle lands based on the regulations should apply to the places that will be announced later--within 3 months--and submit a copy of their ownership document and their sketch and ask their case to be studied. Based on the determined standards the Ministry of Housing will take action to study those cases by sending experts. Now, if a land has been developed the required certification will be given to the owner. Otherwise, the government will confiscate the property. If small buildings have been constructed, the price of the building will be evaluated by experts and paid to the owner. However, if the owner does not apply in the specified time, permission will not be given to divide, build or sell the land unless the death certificate of the owner is presented."

About the owners of small lands, the minister of housing said: "Within 3 months after announcing the date the owners should go to the determined places with the copy of their ownership document, the blueprint or sketch of the land and an affidavit indicating that they do not have any other land or house and they should ask for a certificate so that they would get permission to build a building from their local municipality by presenting the certificate."

The minister of housing added: "In cases where the private lands are a little more than the determined measurement, they will not be confiscated if they cannot be divided to more lots, otherwise, they will be confiscated."

Turning Over the Lands

Eng. Katira'i said: "After surveying the topography of large lands in each area and levelling the land, action will be taken for transferring the lands. If the number of applicants is more than supply we will draw lots among them."

The minister of housing added that by the end of this project, there will not be any private ownership or idle lands throughout the country and in reality land speculation will be terminated.

At the end Eng Katira'i said: "The undeveloped lands will be offered at different prices; that is, the price of residential lots will not be the same as commercial lots. Anyway, now that the regulations have been approved, shortly the date of enforcing the regulations for cancellation of ownership of undeveloped lands will be announced in Tehran and other cities."

9044

CSO: 4906

SOCIAL REFORMS ANNOUNCED FOR ESFAHAN

Tehran BAMDAD in Persian 25 Aug 79 p 2

[Text] Esfahan--BAMDAD correspondent--Yesterday evening at 8 p.m. Dr Musavi Bojnurdi, provincial governor of Esfahan, congratulated the people on the occasion of Feter holiday and announced 13 effective revolutionary plans.

1-With the responsibility of the governor general, all empty houses will be put at the disposal of poor people and those who do not have any houses and arrangements will be made for paying their rents.

1-All government buildings in Esfahan that are at the disposal of the government but are not needed will be put at the disposal of the poor people.

2-The municipalities are bound to focus their attention in all of their city plans towards the poor inhabited areas.

3-The responsible authorities of power and water are instructed to cover the areas inhabited by the poor. Otherwise, they will be fired.

4-All industrial units are obligated to build residential units for their employees. The governor general's office will put the lands at their disposal and the banks are obligated to lend them money at low interest rates.

5-All workers of this province should have booklets so that they can be treated by any doctor, clinic or hospital at any time.

6-All workers regardless of the satanic laws will be retired with 30 years of service or inability to work or on reaching the age of 60 by enjoying welfare services and necessary aids.

7-The factories covered by the regulations on nationalization will be nationalized, such as the wool industry and Shahnaz factory, which have been nationalized.

8-Orders have been issued to use confiscated places for educational purposes so that there will not be a lack of educational facilities.

9-To purge the government offices from SAVAK elements, a committee of 3 persons: a representative of the governor's office, a representative of the Islamic Revolutionary Court, and the selected representatives of the Office Resistance. Any office that shows resistance in this matter will be punished severely.

10-All government offices are ordered to pay attention to the people and avoid acting as snobs. The continuation of an indifferent attitude of considering the people as unworthy will be considered as an antirevolutionary act against which we will fight severely.

11-All government offices and organizations are obligated to cooperate in the construction Jihad (holy war). Lack of cooperation in this respect will have revolutionary consequences.

12-The palace of Mahmud Reza Pahlavi in Malekshahr has been allocated to the handicapped and starting tomorrow (today) it will be put at the disposal of the handicapped under the name of Islamic Revolutionary Welfare Organization.

13-Whenever an action is necessary for the welfare and satisfaction of the people, it will be carried out in a revolutionary manner.

9044

CSO: 4906

BRIEFS

'TRAITORS' BLAMED FOR KORDESTAN TROUBLES—'Abbas 'Amir 'Entezam, the Islamic Republic's ambassador to Stockholm, gave an interview in which he responded to questions about the situation in Kordestan and the recent upheavals in this region. He said that the recent uprisings in Kordestan, which unfortunately cost a number of people their lives, were the work of counter-revolutionaries and agents of the shah. The Iranian Government has sufficient proof of this, including the close ties between the leadership of the now-dissolved Kurdish Democratic Party and the shah and SAVAK. The fighting was caused by traitors, and the government has been unable to restore peace and security to the region. Unless it acts soon, the traitors may succeed in detaching Kordestan from the rest of Iran. The government knows its duty, which is to establish order in Kordestan as soon as possible. 'Amir 'Entezam added that the Kurdish Democratic Party will always be illegal, not only because it does nothing to advance the legitimate interests of our Kurdish brothers, but also because it threatens the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iran. [Text]
[Teheran ETTELA'AT in Persian 30 Aug 79 p 12] 8921

CSO: 4906

JEWISH AGENCY OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON JORDAN VALLEY SETTLEMENT

Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 3 Oct 79 TA

[Text] The Jewish Agency chairman, Arye Dulzin, says the government is 3,000 housing units behind in its building for agricultural settlements all over the country. Dulzin says the time has come for the agency to take direct responsibility for some of the construction.

Dulzin was speaking on a tour of the Jordan Valley settlements during which Ra'anan Weitz of the agency's settlement department said that for the area to become viable, its settlement population would have to be increased by 2.5 [thousand apparently] to 20,000, and Ma'ale Efrayim, the regional town, would have to have another 20,000. On the tour for "News Report" was Leslie Sasser.

[Begin recording] [Sasser] Stagnation despite much honest effort is perhaps the best way to describe the valley. Ten years after the first settlers moved in, the area is still beset with basic infrastructure problems. Two hundred million pounds are needed initially to bring water from Lake Tiberias, a hundred and fifteen million for electricity, large tracts of good arable land on the banks of the Jordan cannot be worked until the government decides otherwise, and on the existing settlements there is just not enough housing to bring in new families. And, because of uncertainty over autonomy, there aren't all that many applicants. The government, the settlers say, just doesn't keep its promises. It boasted there would be 11 new settlements this year. So far, only two have been started. Nearly all the existing settlements are heavily in debt, and some pay as much as 30 percent of their total earnings just in interest on their loans. The Jewish Agency's Ra'anan Weitz says that a 200-million-pound loan is being negotiated with the Bank of Israel to tide the settlers over. And he sees a rosy future for the area, which he said is one of the best in the country, but only if the present rate of development is doubled. I asked him what would happen if it wasn't.

[Weitz] A disaster.

[Sasser] So it won't reach a take-off point unless great sums are invested?

[Weitz] That's right. This is why I insist that anybody now in the government or elsewhere who continues to say: Let's settle everywhere, in the final analysis is saying: We won't do anything.

[Sasser] You're speaking in terms of 40,000 settlers--20,000 in agricultural villages, 20,000 in an urban area--is this realistic?

[Weitz] Of course it is. We've done it in the past, provided that we concentrate and do what we do in that place. What I'm fighting for is a discussion about priorities.

[Sasser] Agency Chairman Arye Dulzin agrees that much must be done for the valley. But, unlike Ra'anan Weitz, he doesn't see it as an either-or situation.

[Dulzin] I don't think this is a question of either-or. I don't think that this is the question. The only thing he says is that we should not neglect the valley on account of Shomron [Samaria].

[Sasser] He says there's not enough money to go around for both.

[Dulzin] Well, we are not the government. It is for the government to decide if there is enough money or not. What I would like to say is that this part of our Hityashvut--of our settlement--should not be neglected on account of some other things.

[Sasser] As to the 3,000 housing units the government has to catch up on countrywide, Dulzin says the shortfall is keeping 60 groups waiting and holding back potential Aliyah. But won't his plans for the agency to take over responsibility for this housing bring him into further conflict with Housing Minister David Levi, with whom he is already at loggerheads over the future of the Absorption Ministry?

[Dulzin] No. This is not a personal matter, it has nothing to do with our relationship. If, as a result of this resolution, the government will come and will say: No, don't do it, we will do it. Fine, we have nothing against it, but under one condition: that they should do it.
[end recording]

CSO: 4820

BRIEFS

EXPORTS RISE IN NINE MONTHS--Exports rose 15 percent during the first nine months of the year to reach a total of \$3,044 billion, as opposed to \$3,649 billion during the same period last year, the Central Bureau of Statistics said yesterday. When the diamond industry's contributions to foreign sales are excluded, the rise in foreign sales represented a 31 percent jump, since diamond sales fell by 9 percent. Agriculture exports grew by 29 percent. The bureau's statistics also showed a steady increase from the first quarter until the third, with the second quarter up 18 percent over the first and the third up 9 percent over the second. In September there were some \$335 million in industrial exports and some \$14 million in agriculture sales abroad. In particular, wood, paint, chemicals, plastic, textiles, leather, electronics and food saw sharp rises in sales during the first nine months of the year over last year's sales. [Text] [Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 5 Oct 79 p 14 TA]

MAYORS OPPOSE PAY RAISES--West Bank mayors are getting organized for a campaign against pay raise demands by employees of the local authorities which would increase their salaries by about 50 percent. In contrast to the inhabitants of the administered territories who are employed in Israel, the salaries of municipality and rural council employees are very low. A cleaning worker earns a maximum of 4,000 Israeli pounds a month. An engineer's salary does not go beyond 7,000 Israeli pounds a month. [Text] [Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 7 Oct 79 p 6 TA]

IDF REGULAR PERSONNEL REDUCTION--Next year the regular army will be reduced by 1,000 people. The soldiers leaving the service will be replaced by soldiers on compulsory duty. Millions of pounds will be saved from the security budget if the IDF carries out this plan. The decision to reduce the number of soldiers in the regular army was made for reasons of budgetary economy. The chief of staff has ordered that the plan be implemented at once without waiting for the next fiscal year. The reduction will be in the administrative and service corps. Attempts will be made not to affect the field units. The IDF has reduced regular army standards during the current fiscal year. However, this time the intention is to cancel unfilled positions as well as reducing personnel. [Excerpt] [Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 4 Oct 79 p 8 TA]

IRANIAN AMBITIONS IN GULF AREA ASSAILED

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 25 Sep 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "The Gulf's Arab Character in the Balance"]

[Excerpts] The story has come to the surface; it is the old story of Iran and the Arabs. Iran wants to dominate the Arabs under any slogan or by any force. During the shah's era the Persian ambition was to realize this domination by military force. The occupation of the three Arab islands in the Gulf was an expression of this method. But the shah and those backing him realized that this method would fail and would only enhance the Arabs' cohesion and unify their forces in the face of this danger. Thus the shah abandoned his plans while preparations were made to adopt a different method for the achievement of the same goal, namely to sow sectarian sedition under Islamic slogans.

It therefore appears that essentially the objective has not changed, only the method, the planners have decided that this weapon is more lethal and, in the final analysis, is capable of destroying both sides and dividing people of the same religion.

History takes many courses and therefore there is no room here to delve into it in order to dig up all evidence. Yet we cannot distinguish between this Persian onslaught in the name of Islam and continuing ambitions of long standing. Therefore, we believe that the new regime in Tehran is trying to achieve what the shah failed to achieve. The shah tried to swallow up Bahrain but failed and therefore had to be content with the three islands, which the new regime has refused to give back to their Arab owners.

To sum up, Tehran seems to want to establish a Persian empire in the name of Islam and, by implication, to steal the Arabs' religion from them by occupation or sedition.

Otherwise, what does the appointment of Rouhani as "leader of the revolution in Bahrain" mean? What does interference in the internal affairs of other countries mean and why do the rulers in Tehran assume the right

of guardianship over Bahraini citizens belonging to the Shi'ite community? What is the intention behind dividing the Muslims into Sunnis and Shi'ites if it is not a diabolical and an imperialist objective?

Bahrain is Arab and will remain Arab; the story of the three islands will not be repeated. In fact the Arabs will not allow anybody, whoever it may be, to divide their ranks and to overrun their countries with false and misleading slogans. Indeed those who have been trying to divide Islam since its inception can never be the real protectors of this great religion.

Therefore, Tehran must realize that yesterday's Iraqi warning against playing with fire in the Gulf area and sowing sectarian sedition among its people is the voice of every Arab in this area and in every Arab land.

The area is Arab and Muslim. The Sunnis are Muslim Arabs and the Shi'ites are Muslim Arabs too. If some have been indulging in deception charging emotions this does not really reflect the general situation. The Shi'ites are Arab citizens and do not accept being used by anybody in plans aimed against Arab sovereignty and the Arab national entity.

We support the Iraqi stand without reservation and we call upon the Arabs of the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula as well as on all Arabs to stand firm in the face of this new danger which wears the garb of Islam and of defending the Palestinian cause to deceive the Arabs. In fact the Persian desire for revenge is still in the Persian conscious and subconscious mind. The time when Islam could be divided has gone, as has the time when the Persians could invent Islamic sects and factions.

If truth and not malice was the motive the Tehran rulers would have set a good example in applying the laws of Islam rather than seeking to sow division and rifts among its people and followers.

Once again we wish Tehran would consider what it is doing before it acts. We are not minors. We realize that we are the target of regional and international designs and are therefore aware that our enemies have never stopped hatching plots and inventing weapons in order to destroy us as a nation, as a religion and as a culture.

We must admit that we have been deceived by the Iranian revolution. When we wrote articles like nobody else did in its support we, true to Arab custom, were deceived by appearances and slogans. There is no doubt that this is a great psychological shock to us. But when the matter concerns our destiny, Arabism and religion we accept no compromise or argument.

The picture, as we have already said, has now become clear and sharp: Cyrus has returned again but this time he is wearing Rouhani's turban.

KUWAIT

'AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM' CRITICIZES IRAN'S GULF POLICY

Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0820 GMT 25 Sep 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 25 September--the Kuwaiti Newspaper AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM has criticized the Iranian policy on the Gulf area. The paper said: It seems that Tehran wants to establish a Persian empire in the name of Islam and to undermine the Arabs' religion through occupation and by sowing sedition among them.

The paper wonders about the purpose of installing Ayatollah Rohani as leader of the revolution in Bahrain. The paper says: Why do the Iranian rulers claim they have the right of tutelage over the Bahraini citizens, who belong to the Shi'ite community, and what is the purpose behind dividing Muslims into Sunnites and Shi'ites?

Commenting on the Arab character of Bahrain, the paper says that the Arabs will permit no one, whoever he may be, to divide their ranks and to storm their homes with false and misleading slogans.

Addressing Tehran, the paper says: The Iraqi warning to Tehran yesterday against playing with the Gulf area or fomenting sectarian sedition among its peoples expresses the opinion of all Arabs in this and every other Arab area.

The paper concludes: We admit that we were deceived by the Iranian revolution and that, when we wrote in support of it, we acted in the usual innocent Arab manner, attracted by outward manifestations and slogans. This is a great psychological shock to us.

CSO: 4802

EDITORIAL URGES REJECTION OF OMAN'S GULF SECURITY PLAN

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 23 Sep 79 pp 1, 19 LD

[Editorial: "A Plan To Protect the Gulf or To Set It on Fire?"]

[Excerpts] Kuwait has done well to turn down the Omani plan that gives foreign countries (the United States, Britain and West Germany) the right to take part in protecting the Gulf. We believe that all the Gulf states must reject this plan. In the first place the Gulf is not in need of foreign protection. On the contrary, it would certainly be in danger if some people imported such guards, since the problem stems from them in the first place; they are the real danger to the Gulf and its inhabitants.

It is these people who are involved in intrigues in the area, who sow sedition here and who bring dangers closer to it by mobilizing their navies and building bases. Such actions only whet the Soviet Union's appetite for intervention and its desire to mobilize in the area-- which would turn it into a battlefield and not a field of peace.

The realization of this plan in practice means the actual occupation of all the Gulf littoral states, and any occupation is bound to arouse resistance, offend national dignity and provoke rejection. That could only mean disturbance and chaos prevailing in the area.

Unless these people intervene in it under various slogans or guises, the Arabian Gulf is not threatened by anybody except U.S. and Zionist agents. Such a threat can be taken care of through independent security measures by the Gulf countries themselves and through genuine and sincere cooperation between them.

The presence of a single American soldier or any other foreign soldier on the Gulf territories or in its waters would set the area ablaze. Our hearts are filled with bitterness from such scenes in the past, and we can take no more.

Moreover, by what reason can we be asked to bring in the Americans to protect us while their weapons are killing us in Lebanon and at a time they are violating Arab honor and Arab sanctities, driving us to the slaughter in trying to liquidate the Palestinian problem through coercion and conspiracy, by sowing sectarian sedition and by inciting the world against us?

Who is threatening Gulf security? Is it the Soviet Union?

The simplest person knows that the Soviet state, despite its aspirations for a substantial presence in this rich area, is neither contemplating nor capable of the war adventure with the West which would certainly come about in the event of any military move it made in the area.

Therefore, the protection is aimed against imaginary forces inside the area, so as to lend legitimacy to the plan as well as to the intervention and to arouse suspicions against the Palestinians in particular. This is because the United States, with its hostile policy toward the Arabs, wants to fabricate a Palestinian danger. It is doing all it can to suppress all Palestinian rights and humiliate the dignity of every Palestinian and Arab. It wants the Palestinians to be eunuchs, slaves and red Indians.

For this reason, through its attacks on the Gulf, whether through fleets and bases or through suspect plans, the United States is continuing its provocations to start a fire in this Gulf territory and raze it to the ground.

These are the aims of the U.S. plan being proposed on behalf of the Muscat government. We believe that the rejection announced by Baghdad and Kuwait will become a total rejection by all the countries of the area, since not a single person can understand this plan, let alone accept it.

CSO: 4802

'AL-WATAN' URGES MEASURES TO CURB ARAB SECTARIANISM

Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 12 Sep 79 pp 1, 9 LD

[Editorial: "The Cholera of Creeds and the Democratic Climate"]

[Text] While the Arab countries are rushing to take anticholera measures they are ignoring a more serious, indeed fatal disease, namely the "cholera of creeds." For years there has been talk about plans to change the geopolitical map of the Arab area and to subdivide it into small sectarian states, but nobody took this seriously or believed that schemes against our area went beyond the flames of strife in Lebanon.

But today, we feel the danger of the sectarian "germ"--that is, the political, psychological and social preparation for such strife from the Atlantic to the Arabian Gulf--our enemies, headed by the United States and Israel, are still going ahead with their plans to "Balkanize" the region and establish sectarian ministates, now that the first "experiment" has succeeded in Lebanon.

The spread of the "cholera of creeds" in parts of the area does not only threaten the dismemberment of Arab communities but will also certainly lead to the outbreak of civil wars that nobody can win except the Israeli enemy, who will enjoy stability and peace once the struggle against it has turned into an inter-Arab struggle, just as happened in southern Lebanon.

Therefore, as we warn those who wittingly or unwittingly fall for these plans, we find it necessary to tell the Arab countries that sooner rather than later they should strengthen themselves and their internal fronts and also take steps against the spread of this fatal disease. The only way for these countries to do that is to restore democratic life, which enables the people to express themselves and to participate in governing themselves. Probably the first rung of democracy is to give greater freedom to the press, so that it can fight with integrity and honesty against falsehoods and injustices as well as contribute to creating a conscious citizen who should know that his real battle is against Zionism and nobody else.

CSO: 4802

'AL-QABAS' SAYS YOUNG TALKS WITH PLO AT CARTER REQUEST

Doha QNA in Arabic 0910 GMT 29 Sep 79 JN

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 29 Sep--The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS has quoted Palestinian political sources as saying that U.S. President Jimmy Carter entrusted former UN representative Andrew Young with conducting a dialog between the United States and the PLO.

The paper stressed that Young's reports are directly sent to President Carter without passing through any intermediary.

The sources added that Andrew Young's resignation was a theatrical piece staged by Carter and Young because the U.S. administration has become fully convinced of the need to continue the dialog with the Palestinians to reach a solution to the Middle East conflict. However, the political circumstances through which the U.S. administration is now passing, particularly the preparations for the presidential elections, prevents any public and official dialog.

The paper said: Young began his unpublicized mission with a series of meetings with the Palestinian and Israeli sides to discuss the possibility of narrowing the gap between the two sides in preparation for his expected meeting with Yasir 'Arafat in Kuwait this year.

CSO: 4802

BRIEFS

CITIZENSHIPS WITHDRAWN--Kuwait, 25 Sep--The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS reports that it has been decided to withdraw Kuwaiti citizenship from 'Abbas al-Mihri, who is currently being interrogated for his political activities in violation of the country's laws. This decision implicitly means that his sons and the members of his family, including his son Ahmad 'Abbas al-Mihri, will also be deprived of their Kuwaiti citizenship. The paper adds that it has been also decided to withdraw Kuwaiti citizenship from Dr Muhammad Hasan Nusayr, 'Adnan 'Abd-al-Samad and lawyer Khalid Khalaf for the same reason. [Text] [Doha QNA in Arabic 1010 GMT 25 Sep 79 JN]

CASTRO SUPPORTED, CARTER CRITICIZED--Kuwait, 1 Oct--The KUWAIT TIMES states today that the clamor being raised by the U.S. administration regarding the Soviet military presence in Cuba only aims at diverting the eyes of the American public from America's domestic problems and President Carter's dwindling popularity. The paper expresses support for Cuban leader Fidel Castro's statements to the effect that Carter's utterances are baseless and only aim at deceiving the American citizens and serving the personal ends of the U.S. president and his administration. Castro has become the arch enemy of successive U.S. administrations, the paper adds, because he has succeeded in improving conditions in his country, ending a corrupt regime and creating, instead, a welfare society. The KUWAIT TIMES accuses the U.S. administration of opposition to liberation movements in the Third World, thus betraying honorable American democratic principles. [Text] [Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0745 GMT 1 Oct 79 LD]

CSO: 4802

OFFICERS OF JOINT COMMAND PRAISE UNIFIED, ORGANIZED ACTION

Beirut AL-HURRIYAH in Arabic 10 Sep 79 pp 20-21

[Interview with Officers of the Joint Command by 'Abd-al-Rahim Ghannam: "AL-HURRIYAH Interviews the Joint Command in Western and Central Sectors; Commander of Western Sector Says, 'Israel Has Several Ambitious Designs in the South; Our Presence in the South Is Not the Reason for the Israeli Attacks;' An Exhaustive Journey in the National Unity Experiment in the Central Sector"]

[Text] South Lebanon has been in the forefront of events since the Zionist War of Attrition. It is there that the new episode of the Camp David conspiracy is taking place, and it is there that the Palestinian-Lebanese union is taking place in a marvelous fashion for the purpose of turning back the Zionist aggressors and their willing tool, Sa'd Haddad. AL-HURRIYAH is reporting a picture of the Palestinian position in the western and central sectors by meeting with the command of the two sectors and by discussing the Israeli allegations and the national unity experiment over the contested land.

At one of the locations of the Palestinian Revolution in Southern Lebanon AL-HURRIYAH met with Brother 'Azmi Sughayyir, commander of the Abu Yusuf al-Najjar Battalion and commander of the joint troops in the western sector. AL-HURRIYAH also met with Comrade Abu Majdi, secretary of the Democratic southern region. The following interview took place.

[Question] The Palestinian Resistance adopted a resolution less than 3 months ago to close its military and administrative offices in the city of Tyre and in the cities of South Lebanon. To what extent has this resolution been put into practice?

We Implemented Our Resolution 100 Percent

[Brother 'Azmi Sughayyir] I hope you will allow me at the outset to explain to you the reason for adopting such a resolution. When the Israeli enemy shelled the city of Tyre, agents, infiltrators and men of the G-2 Bureau began circulating biased rumors against the rights of the Palestinian Resistance. They claimed that had it not been for the presence of the Palestinian

Resistance, the city of Tyre would not have been bombed. We called for a meeting with resistance groups located in the South, and we considered all aspects of the situation. We agreed to evacuate the city of Tyre so as to take away the opportunity from those who have a special interest [in circulating those biased rumors]. This was a spontaneous decision, and even the Lebanese National Movement was surprised by it.

The National Movement Asked Us To Postpone Implementation

[Comrade Abu Majdi] The comrades in the National Movement tried to make us postpone implementation of this decision, but we notified them that we would carry it out immediately. The decision was actually carried out 100 percent. If you wanted to visit the city of Tyre, you will not find a single military or administrative office for the Palestinian Resistance. Nevertheless, the Zionist enemy is still escalating his attacks from day to day.

[Question] In spite of the fact that you have withdrawn from the cities of the South, Israel is still attacking in the area and moving around [freely]; it is expanding its daily attacks on the cities, the villages and the camps of South Lebanon, using the armed Palestinian presence [in the area] as an excuse for such attacks. What is your explanation for this?

[Brother 'Azmi Sughayyir] That is why we made a spontaneous decision, as I have already mentioned, to withdraw from the cities of the South. [We made this spontaneous decision] because we knew with certainty that our presence was not the reason for the repeated Israeli attacks on the South, but that they carried them out for their own purposes. The attacks were intended to force the residents of the South to abandon their lands and [they were intended] to divest the South of its residents so that the agent Sa'd Haddad could expand his control in the South with the direct support of the Zionist enemy.

Sa'd Haddad Issues Warnings to Notables of Border Villages

[Comrade Abu Majdi] It became evident to the citizens of the city of Tyre especially that the Palestinian presence was not the reason for the continued isolationist Israeli attacks on the cities, the villages and the Palestinian camps. It also became evident to several Lebanese figures who had been calling for the closing of the offices and for the evacuation of the armed people from the cities that the presence of the resistance in its former positions at least had brought about a response to the isolationist Israeli attacks; the resistance had returned the fire of the sources of the shelling. Some of these figures are asking us to return to our former positions in spite of the threats and the warnings of Sa'd Haddad and the Israeli enemy.

[Brother 'Azmi] The continued Israeli attacks on the cities and the populated Lebanese and Palestinian districts constituted only a part of the goals of the Fascist, isolationist Israeli plan to force the residents to

emigrate and to leave their homes and to kill them and destroy the economic life so that Sa'd Haddad can gradually expand his control in the South step by step with the direct support of the Zionist enemy.

[Question] Statements by the Israeli enemy against the UN Emergency Forces in South Lebanon have increased. These forces are being accused of assisting and facilitating the missions of the men of the Palestinian Resistance. It is on this basis that the Israelis are calling for the withdrawal of the UN troops. How do you explain this?

The Zionists Have Many Ambitious Designs in Lebanese Territory

[Brother 'Azmi] First, it is not true that the emergency forces are offering us assistance. This is merely an invention that is intended to deceive. At some locations the emergency forces are ensuring assistance to the men of the agent, Sa'd Haddad. Examples of this are numerous, and among them is the fact that the entry of Haddad's forces into the villages of Shaqra, Bra'shit and Majdal Silm has been facilitated. In addition, Sa'd Haddad's men have occupied the villages of Rshaf and Bayt Yahun under the very nose of the UN forces that are located in these villages. The call for the withdrawal of the emergency forces from South Lebanon is due to the fact that Israel has numerous ambitious designs in South Lebanon and its waters. The Israelis do not want to realize these ambitious designs in the presence of the UN troops. It is for this reason that they are making accusations and are directing the agent Sa'd Haddad to bomb the locations of the UN forces continuously.

[Question] After the military tension in the area grew, the joint Palestinian and Lebanese forces were able to "pull off" a number of remarkable operations against the positions of Sa'd Haddad and the positions of the Zionist enemy. Have these operations been the result of the joint coordination between the Resistance and the Lebanese National Movement?

So That the South May Become the Graveyard for the Camp David Plots

[Brother 'Azmi] Yes, these operations that you mentioned were the result of uniting the effort on the battlefield in the area. We are asking the Lebanese National Movement to lead the battle, and we in the Palestinian Resistance will follow under the banner of this command to liberate Lebanese land; to halt the expansion of the state of the agents in South Lebanon; to stop the threats to the villages of South Lebanon; to cut off the hand of the agent Sa'd Haddad; to put an end to his presence on the Lebanese scene; and to eliminate permanently those who deviate nationally in this line. We have to fight militarily and politically, and the national media has to present the truth and to make it heard by all the parties in Lebanon and by world public opinion so that the South and the people of the South may be treated with justice.

[Comrade Abu Majdi] We deal with the troops of Sa'd Haddad just as we deal with the troops of the Israeli enemy. We consider the liquidation of the Israeli protectorate of Sa'd Haddad a national, Lebanese, Palestinian, Arab

mission. Accordingly, the nations of the Baghdad Summit, and especially the nationalist Arab countries, are to supply the South, the Resistance and the National Movement with all the requirements for steadfastness and support.

[Question] What are the possibilities that the Israeli, isolationist war of attrition might develop into a broad attack?

[Comrade Abu Majdi] The isolationist Israeli escalation [of the aggression] against the South and the communities of our people only seeks to divest the South of its residents in preparation for broad operations that are to take place at the subsequent date for the purpose of getting the resistance out of the South, bringing its members together in specific areas and dealing blows to the heart of Lebanon, as was the case in 'Ayn al-Hulwah. Our decision was to be steadfast and to resist the plans of the enemy and of the protectorate of Sa'd Haddad so that we can turn South Lebanon into a grave where the plans of the Camp David Alliance can be buried.

In the Central Sector

[AL-HURRIYAH] In the Central Sector the brave men of the joint forces affirmed their conscious and deep awareness of the importance of the role which these forces are playing to protect South Lebanon. They are resisting the repeated isolationist Israeli attacks, and they are carrying out a series of operations that have proven to the enemy, even more than to the friend, the superior combat ability of the brave men of the joint forces. In a long interview that AL-HURRIYAH had with the leaders of the joint forces in the Central Sector, the comrades spoke about numerous important and vital subjects.

Nur is the Fatah commander of the Central Sector and the commander of the joint forces in the sector.

Simon Khuri is the acting commander of the Murad Battalion--Murad was killed in action--which is affiliated with the revolutionary armed forces of the democratic front. He is a member of the Joint Command.

Nizam is a member of the military command of the joint forces in South Lebanon.

Ahmad Amin is a member of the Joint Command in the Central Sector.

Ibrahim is the acting secretary of the Military Command of the National Movement.

AL-HURRIYAH posed all the questions to those who were present. After conferring with each other in a long conversation, they designated Brother Nur, commander of the Joint Forces to speak on behalf of all of them. Brother Nur would ask his fellows and comrades to add to the answers [he was giving] if they had any additions to what he had said.

[Question] National Palestinian unity is an urgent popular demand. It has never been a demand that could be accomplished easily. Recently there has been much talk about a kind of Palestinian unity that is being practiced in South Lebanon in addition to the continued coordination with the Lebanese National Movement. What are the positive features of this unity, and what are its negative features, if any?

[Nur] The unified effort has no negative features.

I am making it clear in front of my comrades and my brothers in the Joint Command of the Central Sector that there are no negative features in the real sense of the word in joint action. Joint action involves nothing but positive features which we have been able to achieve during the joint action period. In practical application, however, some negative features may surface, and we nip those in the bud. We [harness] all the abilities and capabilities [that are available to us] to eliminate all the gaps that may appear in the future during practical application.

We Have a State of Intellectual Harmony and Rapprochement That Is Growing Continuously

We have significant positive features that have appeared during the period of the brief experiment which we went through together. [The following are] the most important of these positive features;

1. The unification of our efforts is giving us a greater ability to confront the enemy and to affect him. It is sparing us losses, and it is not requiring a major effort from us.
2. It is creating a state of intellectual harmony and rapprochement among officials in the National Movement and the Palestinian Resistance. This is creating a positive effect on the fighting forces and is projecting to the masses a clear and a clearly defined picture of the actions of the Lebanese National Movement and of the Palestinian Resistance so that their participation may be channeled into one framework. I can say that joint action is the course that begins with agreement on a common denominator and ends with benefits from those experiences that lead to unity.

[Question] Can it be said that the agent Sa'd Haddad has entered into a new stage of his expansionist policy that is supported by the Zionist war machinery under the very nose of the UN forces?

[Nur] I believe that everyone knows the background of the politics that brought the UN forces to Lebanon. The UN forces came to Lebanon with Resolution 425 which stipulated that the Israeli forces leave the Lebanese territory that was occupied by the Zionist invading forces in March 1978. The UN forces came to Lebanon to help the Lebanese government return to the South and carry out its mandate on all Lebanese territory on the basis of the fact that the territory of Lebanon is unified.

The National Movement and the Palestinian Resistance facilitated the missions of the UN troops. In accordance with what has already been mentioned, the Lebanese National Movement and the Palestinian Resistance agreed to accept these troops for the purpose of carrying out the questions that were stipulated in Resolution 425. It is with this understanding, which is not inconsistent with our continued struggle against the Zionist enemy, that we dealt with the UN Emergency Forces. We have done everything to facilitate the mission of these forces that are located on the land where we too are located.

[Question] The joint military operations are among the positive factors that were produced by the Palestinian National Unity. What were the most significant of these operations?

We Are Capable of Stopping Haddad and Regaining the Villages

[Nur] It is our opinion that this course which Israel is pursuing through Sa'd Haddad needs a firm political position from the joint forces through the Central Command so that the position of the scope of local military actions can be improved.

We in the joint forces are capable of stopping Sa'd Haddad and of regaining some, if not all, of the villages that he controls. Through the decision of the Joint Command we have been able to affirm that unified military action against the separatist forces and the Zionist enemy will continue and will be escalated either in the area of the South or in the Central Sector.

Joint Action To Bring About Quantitative and Qualitative Development in Our Actions

The brave men of the joint forces carried out numerous military operations in the heart of the region that is controlled by the agent Haddad. The most prominent of these operations were those of Kunin--Saff al-Hawa; the Bayt Yahun operation; two operations in the region of Hula; and the operation of Mays al-Jabal. In addition, there were two operations in al-Tayyibah and one in Dibil. In addition, there are daily operations and shelling operations that return the enemy fire which is directed against the villages, the cities and the camps in South Lebanon. We are convinced that joint organized action will bring about a quantitative and a qualitative development in our military, political and popular actions.

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CSO: 4802

'ARAFAT, AL-HUSS DISCUSS DEPLOYING ARMY IN SOUTH LEBANON

Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 26 Sep 79 p 11 'D

[Michel an-Nuri's Dispatch: "What Took Place at the Important Meeting Between al-Huss and 'Arafat"]

[Excerpts] Beirut—The tripartite meeting held last Friday evening between Lebanese prime minister Salim al-Huss, the PLO's Yasir 'Arafat and Fatah Central Committee member Abu Iyad came at the end of a series of meetings held previously between al-Huss and Abu Iyad and between Sarkis and Abu Iyad. These meetings ended with Abu 'Ammar's approval of what was agreed between al-Huss and Abu Iyad.

Al-Huss Speaks With Emotion

AL-WATAN has learned that prime minister al-Huss, during his meeting with 'Arafat, presented the measures he deemed appropriate for improving the situation in the south and for the steadfastness of its inhabitants. He believed that the army's deployment in the south would deprive Israel of some, if not all, of its excuses. Sources very close to prime minister al-Huss describe how al-Huss spoke with emotion about the situation in the south, affirming that this tragedy must be ended. Addressing 'Arafat in this regard, al-Huss said: "We do not want agreements from you—neither the Cairo agreement nor the Shtavrah agreement—which hedge your presence with conditions and limits. Consider yourselves absolved of any agreement with the Lebanese authorities. However, what we ask of you is that you exert the utmost efforts to support the south and the southerners."

Abu 'Ammar and the List of Aid

'Arafat replied by saying: The resistance has spared no effort to help Lebanon and the South. At a time when the Lebanese authorities turned their back on the south and the southerners and when the Arabs also turned a deaf ear to the cries of the southerners, only the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese national movement gave all the aid and support they could to the afflicted south.

Abu 'Ammar presented a long list of the various kinds of material aid the Palestinian revolution has given to the south. He said: "We have also halted our military operations across the Lebanese borders." As for the claim that the presence of the Lebanese army in the south would prevent the Zionist enemy from shelling the area, that is denied by the facts, for throughout the period 1969 through 1975—that is, before the eruption of the civil war in Lebanon—the enemy constantly attacked the south despite the presence of the Lebanese army there.

'Arafat added: We will not oppose the army's entry and deployment "but this step, in order to succeed, requires the approval of the national movement. This is a domestic affair that concerns you, though we shall talk to our comrades in arms in order to persuade them to facilitate the army's task despite their correct observations that this army is factional and unbalanced."

'Arafat also counseled al-Huss on the importance of achieving national detente because without it all these measures will remain incomplete and ineffective in the full sense of the word.

Preliminary Agreement

Lebanese sources have told AL-WATAN that the meeting facilitated the authorities' task of deploying the army in the south in reasonable numbers and in an appropriate manner that would maintain the army's morale and give it an effective and serious role—not as a token presence, as was the case in the past. It is believed here that this agreement will greatly assist the convening of the expected Lebanese-Palestinian summit between 'Arafat and Sarkis.

CSO; 4802

REACTIONS TO MILITARY PROMOTIONS

Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 5, 7 Sep 79

[Article: "Reactions to Officers' Promotions Continue: Lebanese Front Says They Are Serious Violation of Honor; Al-Jumayyil Says, 'The Question Is not in the Interests of the Army;' Lebanese Front Prepares Study in Lieu of Bone-Breaking Battle; Sham'un Considers Promotions Defective and Seniority To Be Center of Objection"]

[5 Sep 79 p 3]

[Text] The Lebanese Front has described the promotions of officers in terms of "a violation of Lebanese honor and a harsh blow to the morale and effectiveness of the army."

President Camille Sham'un said that the promotion affected "Those who had betrayed their positions and surrendered their barracks." Meanwhile, the President of the Phalangist Party Pierre al-Jumayyil announced that [the task of] "building a balanced national army cannot be based on sectarianism alone, but it can rather be done by achieving [a state of] national and pan-Arab equilibrium and by absolute loyalty to Lebanon."

The front had held its regular weekly meeting yesterday at its offices in the Monastery of St 'Awwar. Sham'un, al-Jumayyil and the rest of the members were present. The front decided "to convene a quick meeting with officials to find out the truth of the situation and to take a firm position after that."

A statement was issued about the results of the meeting. The statement included:

"It is the opinion of the front after studying the subject of the recent promotions that took place in the Lebanese army in the light of information that had been leaked to it--these promotions have so far been kept secret, and this serious, national question has been foolishly and superficially dealt with--that the method which was adopted in instituting these promotions constituted a serious violation of Lebanese honor and a harsh blow to the morale and effectiveness of the Lebanese army. It made the citizen lose his

confidence in this major institution, especially in the present situation. It is this [consideration] that is moving the front to convene a candid meeting with officials to find out the truth about the matter and the truth that made this situation necessary. Afterwards, the front is to adopt the firm position wherein Lebanon's honor, sovereignty and welfare can be safeguarded."

Sham'un's Statement

President Sham'un made a statement in which he said:

"I must ask why First Lt Ghattas, for example, did not get the promotion that was given to others. It is known that First Lt Ghattas, heading a unit of the regular Lebanese army, did take over the position of Galerie Saim'an under orders from his superiors. He fought for 6 consecutive months like a hero, and with his toughness, his courage and his perseverance he was able to hold on to this post in spite of attacks on it by Palestinian, Iraqi and other troops. Meanwhile, we see other who had betrayed their duties and given up their posts and their barracks obtaining promotions. Among those is Maj Ibrahim Shahin who surrendered the Rashayya Barracks on the first of January 1976 and joined the ranks of what is called the Arab Army of Lebanon."

Al-Jumayyil

Al-Jumayyil stated, "I do not consider the promotions that took place to be in the interests of the army because building a balanced, national army, as some are advocating, cannot be done in this way. The balance [that is desired] cannot be based on sectarianism alone, even though sectarianism may be necessary. But what is required above all else is the achievement of national and pan-Arab equilibrium and an emphasis on absolute loyalty to Lebanon."

He added, "Building the army on sectarian bases would also make it subject to collapse in the presence of any experience, just as what occurred in the Lebanese tragedy."

Al-Jumayyil went on to say that when the front talks about the army, it does not do so from the perspective of excluding an officer from consideration or promoting another from a particular sect. The front rather wants the officers, whether they are Christians or Moslems, to be absolutely loyal to Lebanon.

"Let me here offer the example of Brig Gen Tarabiyah who was acting commander of the army. He established the notion of the army that we want: that the interests of Lebanon supersede all other interests. We must study in depth a subject that is so critical and so important because the question goes beyond the matter of promotions."

Deputy Amin al-Jumayyil had been invited to attend the meeting where he presented a report about the promotions. Sources of the front stated that the Phalangist deputy "had been commissioned to contact senior officials of the Ministry of Defense and the army to investigate the matter."

Deputies Welcome Promotions; Others Object to Them; Qulaylat Says Tribal Mentality Survives

Reactions to the promotions of officers in political and parliamentary circles varied. There were those who were awaiting "a study of their political and military implications;" there were those who supported and welcomed them; there were those who opposed them; and finally, there were those who refused "to become involved in military affairs."

Gen Fu'ad Lahud chairman of the Parliamentary Defense and Security Committee said, "I cannot express any personal opinion on this matter until I hear the government's point of view and exchange views with my parliamentary colleagues."

He announced that the committee would consider at its meeting on Friday, the day after tomorrow, the manner in which the promotions occurred. He said that a statement would be issued that would define the position of the committee on this matter.

Deputy Father Sam'an al-Duwayhi said, "The army has been able to restore cohesiveness to its ranks with these promotions. What the politicians failed to do since 1973, the army command has been able to accomplish. It gave everyone who was entitled to a promotion his due right. We are hoping that this will be the major step and the new line for the course of the covenant and for the course of the Lebanese army on all Lebanese lands. If there are those who are claiming that they have been wronged, time will establish their rights."

Deputy Dr Albert Mukhaybar said, "The promotions constitute a question which pertains to the system that is in effect in the ministries of national defense and the interior. Objections were made public for the first time and in this manner in the media to the measures of these two ministries. We refuse to discuss or to politicize questions that pertain to military appointments or promotions."

Deputy Mahmud 'Ammar said, "It is better that the politicians not interfere in the matter of officers' promotions. This is to protect the interests of the army which is careful, especially at this time, that it be above suspicion or outbidding [showing one's power or influence]."

Deputy Bashir al-'A'war said that the uproar that was raised about the promotions was to be expected. In the past such an uproar used to take place when five or six officers were promoted. How would it be when the new round of promotions is as extensive as it is?

Ibrahim Qulaylat the chairman of the Nasirist Independent Movement--the Murabitun--said, "The concerned agency in our movement is still carefully looking into these promotions and studying their political and military implications."

He added, "But a quick review of the promotions leaves several questions [in one's mind] and confirms the fact that the sectarian and tribal mentality is surviving. We pause at two points: that of equating nationalist officers with those who deal with the Zionist enemy, and that of giving promotions generously to intelligence agency officers without their meeting the conditions for promotions."

A spokesman for the Grouping of Popular Leagues and Committees stated that the purpose of the position taken by the Lebanese Front on the question of promotions is to wrest more power and to make the nationalist group believe that the front is actually opposed to these measures so that the nationalist group would become enthusiastic about the front and fall into its snares.

[7 Sep 79 p 3]

[Text] The Lebanese Front continued its campaign against the recent promotions of officers through President Camille Sham'un who considered them an indication of the rashness of officials. He said that the promotions law was defective. Meanwhile, front sources asserted that the front's campaign "will not reach the stage of initiating a bone-breaking battle" around this subject.

These sources indicated that the purpose of the campaign was to make the people aware of the injustice that had befallen some [officers] so that preparations can be made to correct this injustice. The sources indicated that the front was preparing a detailed study about the promotions and that this study will be carefully considered by the Phalangists' Political Bureau in its next meeting. The study will then be presented to the meeting of the front as a preliminary step to making it public.

President Sham'un said, "We are following this question until the end, and we are taking an interest in all the officers who have been treated unjustly without considering their sectarian affiliation. We are doing this so that it would not be said that we are taking an interest in Christian officers and [thus] be accused of sectarianism."

He added, "I will give an example of this. One of the officers who has been known for his leadership and his true patriotism is Col 'Abd-al-Ghani Hamad. He was not included in the promotions just like numerous Moslem and Christian officers, whose patriotism and loyalty are not suspect, were not included."

He said, "I want to ask the director general of the internal security forces a question about the reason why the promotions did not include Col Hamad, and I am awaiting a response from him as soon as possible."

He went on to say, "Although there is a number of officers of the internal security forces who, according to papers and documents, have been accused of embezzling funds estimated at 50,000 Lebanese pounds, the promotions

of these officers were not prevented by the charge that was leveled against them."

He added, "The Promotions Law as it was issued clearly indicates that officials acted in haste. They did not act with deliberation in issuing this law which turned out to be defective because it did not take into consideration the army officers, the officers of the internal security forces or the police officers who should have been promoted."

He said, "I am repeating my question: why did the promotions of the internal security forces not include the promotion of Col 'Abd-Al-Ghani Hamad? I am waiting for the answer of the director general of the internal security forces to this question."

Responding to a question, Abbot Sharbil Qassis the chairman of the Permanent Congress of Lebanese Monastic Orders said, "Every person in a position of responsibility experiences the difficulty of promotions, organizations and personnel changes. It is therefore difficult for an official to make a judgment on the soundness of the recent promotions of officers. But this does not mean that it is difficult for that person to view them with regard to the general principles that they adopted."

He added, "From this perspective and from this perspective alone it seems to me that the promotions fell short of a national standard. They disappointed some people, especially those who had worked a great deal to protect the law, the state and Lebanon. In order to be more objective in rendering judgment, and especially with regard to those individuals many of whose positions we appreciate and respect, I am giving myself time so that my verdict would be more objective."

In the context of this considered campaign, the Phalangist Lebanese News Agency distributed a technical military report prepared by specialized agencies of the Lebanese Front. The report stated that "The recent promotions of officers have confirmed the legitimacy of the leading officers of the Arab army of Lebanon but have withdrawn this legitimacy from the officers who fought to defend the homeland and its laws during the previous administration."

The report raised the following question: "If the exclusion of Col Antoine Barakat and of Maj Fu'ad Malik, for example, is due to the fact that each one of them established a movement that is separate from the lawful motherland, what is it that can be said about Col Fahim al-Haj, about Lt Col Mahmud Matar and about Lt Col Ibrahim Shahin? The latter won a promotion with seniority that went back to the date when he surrendered the Rashayya Barracks to the Palestinians and joined the Arab Army of Lebanon. He allowed the PLO to enter into the barracks, and he personally paid the revolution's salaries and compensations to the Lebanese soldiers."

The report compared the situation of Col Sami al-Khatib the Staff Lt Col Ibrahim Tanus, "both of whom are graduates of one class," with that of Lt Ghazi Chattas and First Lt Tallal al-Ladiqi.

The [Lebanese News] Agency took note of "several incidents [that had occurred] in the last 2 days." It stated that an officer in a principal province had refused to endorse the mail because the officers of the class that had succeeded his own were now giving him orders, and he was now compelled to salute them. The agency also spoke about the fact that "a number of officers had left their barracks spontaneously and without permission to protest the discrimination whose victims they had become."

Attributing this to military circles the agency said that "Two army majors had barged into a principal office in the Ministry of Defense last Saturday without an appointment and without permission. They were carrying their weapons. They told the occupants of that office words that are inappropriate when spoken in the presence of superiors."

The agency feared that "The recent promotions may have produced two results that are against the interests of the army and the country. These are:

"First, hatred and harsh treatment among members of the military may have been introduced into the military establishment. In the long run this would have an effect within the military establishment.

"Second, it is possible that the officers who were unfairly treated would created within the military establishment secret movements that would be similar to the blocs which, ever since the days of the late President Fu'ad Shihab and to this day, have united the officers of the Second Division, the Shihabis."

Other sources in the Lebanese Front stated that the front's objection to the promotions was not due to sectarian reasons because the front believed that the injustice in the law had turned captains into colonels by letting them make big jumps that affected the morale of many officers who used to issue orders to officers and found themselves overnight in a position of receiving orders from those same officers.

The sources of the front stated that the chairman of the Phalangist Party Emergency Agency al-Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil had said that he was assuming that what had happened could be dealt with by correcting this situation and by rectifying the error soon.

These sources specified as follows the objections that the front is expected to announce in the study that is being prepared by al-Jumayyil, Jr:

Legally: The law deprived many officers of their right to a promotion on the one hand, and it overlooked the standards whose sanction by military law and custom is presumed. It did grant seniority [to certain officers] and aroused the strongest objections. One of the criteria for such seniority is that the officer who is a candidate for promotion has undertaken a patriotic action for the country and the military establishment indicative of outstanding sacrifice.

A Suit with the State Council?

These sources indicate that some army officers may resort to filing suit with the State Council against Law No 2233 which gives a number of senior officers, some of whom are members of the Military Council and others are in important positions, seniority rights at the expense of many.

Logically and on the basis of military formations: The law gave seniority rights to officers who had been away from the country periodically since 1975 and until now. They were gone either to specialize in a particular field of study or to perform a mission as attaches or something similar. They did so at the expense of officers who bore their responsibilities and participated in protecting the law and the institutions [of the nation]. The standards that were adopted with regard to the exclusion of officers who supported the factions were not objective. "The standard of fighting the Palestinians applies to those who fought alongside the militias, and it also applies to the officers of the vanguard because the political circumstances in the country had changed many times during the years of the crisis. The exclusion should have been confined to those like Sa'd Haddad and Ahmad al-Khatib only."

These sources indicate that the study will include a document about a schedule of proposed promotions that was prepared in the Ministry of Defense in the latter part of 1975. The law dismissed the bases upon which the schedule of proposed promotions was drawn up. What was it that had made such a shameful change in the names necessary? The matter would have been logical had some of the names changed instead of most of them being repalced.

Politically, and this is the most important matter: Sources of the front are saying that seniority rights in particular and promotions in general are placing a barrier in front of those who are qualified to assume command in the army and are giving preference to a certain group of officers most of whom are former or current members of the Second Division. The make-up of the army cannot be restricted to a certain group and to certain individuals.

Sources of the front affirm, "It is not that we have anything against the Second Division, but we are rather striving for justice and against preferential positions in the army. The law [in question] does this and controls the future make-up of the army." The sources are designating "an officer who will assume a certain responsibility for 13 years and another officer, for so many years."

These sources are striving to free some of those who were excluded from the promotions from their partiality to the front. They are emphasizing that the circumstances of the crisis placed them in the same positions with the militias and that the cessation of the fighting made them anxious to return to the discipline of the army because their affiliation with the military establishment had suffered at the hands of armed party elements. The sources of the front are saying that when they notified officials of their objections, they were met with ridicule. The same sources respond to what was attributed

to Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri, "I am the one who prepared these promotions. Either there is confidence in me or there isn't." The Front says, "There is no confidence on the basis of this law, and we doubt that he was the one who prepared it."

8592

CSO: 4802

MOROCCAN PRIME MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON WESTERN SAHARA

Dakar LE SOLEIL in French 30 Sep 79 pp 14, 15 AB

[Interview granted by the Moroccan Prime Minister Maati Bouabid to the director general of LE SOLEIL, Bara Diouf, during the former's visit to Dakar on 26, 27 September]

[Text] [Question] Mr Prime Minister, the more one reflects on the Western Saharan problem, the more one becomes aware that it involves particularly Morocco against Algeria. Clearly, this distressing problem is a problem between two nations of the Maghreb, and it is not the first time, for in 1963, an armed conflict opposed them, always concerning the colonial borders to be reconsidered. What do you think about this?

[Answer] Actually, the problem of the Western Sahara is a bilateral one between Algeria and Morocco. As you say, there has already been a conflict, in 1963. It was a border conflict which was partly settled in Bamako and which was finally settled by Moroccan and Algerian authorities. At present, Algeria is forcing a conflict on us. It has created what it calls the Polisario, what it calls the forces for the liberation of Western Sahara. In reality, they are mercenaries created out of nothing by Algeria and which attacks Morocco, which subverts. I have very often used this word, this movement named Polisario, I call it "Algerisario." It is Algeria that has created this movement out of nothing and is trying to impose it on us as a partner. That is my opinion on this conflict exactly which has been imposed on us.

[Question] Before the OAU Summit, King Hassan II invited President Chadli of Algeria to Monrovia where, with the help of their counterparts they could find a solution to their problem. But it happened that King Hassan did not attend this rendezvous. How do you explain this noted absence?

[Answer] I think his majesty gave the real explanation, the reasons why he did not go to Monrovia. The very day he extended his hand and waited for reciprocation his country was attacked by these puppets of the Polisario. As of that moment he renounced going to Monrovia; Algeria seemed not to want the peace that was being proposed. His majesty explained this in a press conference and in an official communique.

[Question] The appeal made by King Hassan to the frontline states of the Sahara to solve, not the problem created by the Polisario Front, but that of all the Sahara, from the Atlantic to the Red Sea, did it obtain any favorable response? If so, what? By the way what is the content of the Moroccan project in favor of such a conference?

[Answer] This initiative by his majesty, which is very recent as a matter of fact, since it was made only a few weeks ago, aims at finding a solution. The peaceful behavior of his majesty and of the Moroccan people around him, prove equally the peaceful character of our people. I personally discussed this initiative with one of the wise men of Africa, President Sekou Toure, who alludes to it in his speech at Havana. This proposal was communicated to President Tolbert, current president of the OAU. President Senghor told me he knew about the initiative. Obviously, we know the contents: To make the Sahara—from the Atlantic to the Red Sea—an ocean of peace and cooperation. It involves the exploitation of common riches, seeing the future, going beyond the year 2000, beyond borders, to give outlets to those who are enclaved, countries that do not have access to the sea. These are some constructive propositions; more so because we know that, at present, the problems of the sea, and of access for landlocked countries are very fundamental ones. Morocco, once again, has shown its peaceful nature in taking this important initiative.

[Question] What interest, truly, does Algeria have in persisting in these efforts to destabilize North Africa and the Sahara?

[Answer] The answer is clear. When you make peaceful efforts as King Hassan and Morocco are doing, and you are not repaid in kind, when you talk about all kinds of matters of cooperation all over the Sahara, from the Atlantic to the Red Sea—his majesty even proposed ports on the Atlantic to Algeria—and when you run up against a categorical refusal, there is but one answer, that is a desire to create destabilisation in the region. Why? To me, it's a question of hegemony, Algerian as well as Libyan. The Libyans started by saying that they were not for little states, but the Libyan head of state stated recently to a newspaper, I think it was JEUNE AFRIQUE, that: "We support the Polisario, we will not stop at this stage." This signifies that it sides for all practical purposes with the Polisario and gives it aid. He said: "We held them and we will continue to help them."

[Question] Mauritania solemnly proclaimed, not only her withdrawal from the portion of Western Sahara, but also a strict neutrality that she wishes to see respected by Morocco, Algeria and the Polisario. But everything makes one think, in the application of this policy of neutrality that the fears of Nouakchott stem more from Rabat than from Algiers and the Polisario. The expulsion of Moroccan diplomats posted to Nouakchott last week is proof, it seems. Therefore I would like to ask:

a) What is the opinion of your government on this neutrality preached by Nouakchott?

b) Are the fears of Mauritania on a possible violation of this neutrality by Rabat justified?

[Answer] We have always declared that Mauritania is a sovereign state, that it could consequently, make all the decisions it deems useful on condition that these do not affect the interests of Morocco. When Mauritania decided to sign the peace treaty with the Polisario, her partner, with all our political and legal reservations concerning this treaty, we, as the Moroccan Government, said that the Mauritanian Government was sovereign and free. Therefore I think Mauritania's fear are not justified. I have the impression that Mauritania is afraid of and is being pressured by powers other than Morocco. About the expulsion of the Moroccan diplomats from Nouakchott, we consider this as an unfortunate gesture because it was carried out in conditions that could have evoked reactions on our part. But what I can tell you is that we have agreements with Mauritania that we have to respect since we will continue to consider Mauritania a sovereign state. So, as you see, we remain what we are and ask Mauritania to remain neutral as she claims to be.

[Question] In his press conference on 19 August, King Hassan mentioned the possibility of offering Algeria access to the Atlantic if that was what she really desired. How far could Morocco go with these peace concessions?

[Answer] This declaration by his majesty in his press conference again shows his peaceful nature and that of the Moroccan people. The Algerians have no access to the Atlantic. An outlet to the Atlantic will help them perhaps on the economic level for the dispatch of some of their products. This is very possible but what should be retained in our proposal is the peaceful attitude of Morocco which always gives a helping hand in order that neighboring countries should not go to war and so that harmony may reign in the relations between these countries.

How far could we go with these concessions? We have always given a helping hand to find just solutions to all problems but we will not go to the extent of yielding even an inch of our territory of which the Sahara is an integral part.

[Question] The more one examines the problem of Moroccan-Algerian relations, the more one is driven to consider them as an example of difficult if not impossible cohabitation: On one side, a so-called "revolutionary" and "democratic" Algeria which is under a one party regime and is, therefore, totalitarian; and on the other, a Morocco doubtlessly monarchical, but which has accepted open democracy, the multi-party system and the official existence and cohabitation of different ideologies. Do you not think that the fundamental options of Algiers and Rabat as far as their institutions are concerned already carry in them the seeds of the conflicts between the two countries?

[Answer] You should have started from the following data: Certain countries are slaves to preconceived ideas. You talk of Algeria as being "democratic," "revolutionary" and "socialist." I have seen Algeria, I have visited it, I have had a lot of contacts with Algerians, a lot of contacts with representatives of the so-called socialist countries. I do not have the impression that these are democratic and free countries. You have visited Morocco and all those who have visited it have noticed the freedom existing under a constitutional monarchy. A parliament that functions, elected town council members doing their duties daily and regularly, governors who are controlled by the people's representatives, the constitutional and administrative chamber of the Supreme Court which controls the executive. People do not want to admit it, for in their minds, socialism means freedom and a non-socialist country does not have freedom. This is false. As for us, we have freedom for it is the way which is most just and most convenient for the Moroccan people.

If Algerian people feel at ease in an atmosphere of hardship and lack of freedom, it is their own affair. As far as we are concerned, we do not feel that the Algerian regime is worrying us. It does not worry us at all.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, the recent conference on nonaligned countries in Havana has been presented to us as having been a conflict, is not a duel on one hand between Cuba which wanted to align the nonaligned behind Moscow and on the other the moderates which rejected all alignment in order to remain only what they are. What do you think about both the conduct and the results of his conference?

[Answer] I had the honor to represent His Majesty Hassan II at the conference of nonaligned countries in Havana. Obviously, the main problem was to know whether the movement would remain nonaligned because in his final declaration, Fidel Castro had tried to direct the movement toward Moscow. It must be clearly stated that as far as he was concerned, the socialist countries (the Soviet Union and the other Eastern countries) are our natural allies while the West is the number one enemy. However, most of the representatives of the various countries did not agree with the Cuban point of view. Let me mention for example the attitudes of Senegal and Morocco. I have already referred to this in my statement. I devoted a whole chapter to this new philosophy of nonalignment. Concerning this philosophy, India and Yugoslavia made some amendments which tempered a little the direction which Cuba wanted to impose. That country is going to lead the movement for 3 years; it is only at the end of this mandate that one can appreciate the results of the orientation which Cuba wanted to give to nonalignment. There was something very embarrassing in Havana. There was no vote. The resolutions we adopted by "consensus." This facilitated all the coups mounted by the organizers. There was "consensus" on even the most controversial problems whereas it is very well known that there could have been unanimity only on the question of support for the liberation movements.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, how would you like to actualize the resolute support which Senegal--through her Prime Minister Abdou Diouf--gives to Morocco in the painful trial imposed on her?

[Answer] Senegal is a country which understands our position. I have had discussions with President Senghor as well as with Prime Minister Abdou Diouf. They understand the soundness of Morocco's position on this painful problem. Senegal has been giving us great help. You saw in Monrovia how President Senghor made himself Morocco's advocate to the last minute. Of course, we would like this to continue. We examined certain problems with President Senghor and particularly the need to convince some so-called moderate African countries that a passive attitude is not the desirable one. There is need for more dynamism and I think that we are going to turn that way. As for Senegal, I repeat that she has been giving us great support and we would like this to continue.

CSO: 4400

STRENGTH OF BOURGUIBISM THWARTS ALARMISTS, RUMOR-MONGERS

Tunis L'ACTION in French 27 Sep 79 p 1 LD

[Article by Moncef Chihi: "The Answer"]

[Text] Before, during and after the party's 10th congress the most fantastic rumors were "spread" in the country with a luxuriance of invention matched only by their authors lack of intelligence. But despite their alarmist nature they proved unable to fulfill the hopes of their fabricators, that is, spread unrest and, if possible, create crises. In accordance with a certain tradition which is striking roots in our country, their aim was very clearly to harm the party, its men, its work and its principles.

So far nothing surprising or very unusual. However, when rumor becomes direct accusation and the accusation proves to be nothing other than a blatant lie, the fact can cause concern. To the rumormonger, not to the intended victim. For lies and obfuscation of issues are the final recourse of unintelligent people and substitutes for ineffective arguments. Those who tolerate ambiguity find in it what they want. Clarity and the truth make them feel uncomfortable. Therefore it is understandable why the party, its men, its work and its principles upset them.

In fact, right from the beginning the Neo-Destour Party adopted its creator's qualities--frankness, courage, honesty and a continually asserted loyalty to its original values and principles. All those who have trained at the school of Bourguibism have been nurtured at this source. Like their leader, motivated, solely by a concept of national duty, they have spontaneously offered their services to the party. You cannot say as much for people who appear on the political scene only occasionally, that is, whenever the situation warrants it. Such calculations have always been alien to those who have never wavered in their profound faith in the party and its principles under the weight of responsibilities or years. For it is this constancy in loyalty to Bourguibian ethics that constitute the strength and prestige of Bourguibism. It is this constancy which will guarantee it.

And it is this constancy which remains the best answer to those who still wonder in what direction Tunisia is going.

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